

The Oracle

of Mount St. Mary's College

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Long Awaited Sister Magdalen Coughlin Learning Complex Begun

By Reina Garcia
Staff Writer

"After more than two years of planning and anticipation, construction of the Sister Magdalen Coughlin Learning Complex is about to begin on the Doheny Campus," reads the invitation for the Groundbreaking Ceremony held on Thursday, October 3, 1996. The complex has been named for Sister Magdalen Coughlin, CSJ, former president and chancellor of Mount St. Mary's College, whose efforts and vision helped the college gain recognition as one of the nation's top liberal arts institutions. Sister Karen Kennelly, current president of the Mount says, "It is long awaited and a tremendous addition to our teaching and learning facilities at Mount St. Mary's College."

The Los Angeles Conservancy finally approved the plans after having been redesigned to meet the neighbors concerns for the complex. On July 9, the Los Angeles City Council voted unanimously to begin construction.

The complex will consist of three connected buildings. They are the library, learning resource center, and an academic building. The library will have an extensive collection, including print and media, and the Center for Cultural Fluency. The learn-

ing center will offer tutoring and counseling, meeting rooms, and a computer lab. The academic building will have classrooms, a health lab, offices, and the bookstore.

The library will be a state of the art facility, including a link-up to the internet that will help serve the students. It will be able to compete with other colleges and universities and may even surpass them. There will also be an after hours study room.

The current Doheny Library is located on the first floor in the St. Joseph's Hall and holds approximately 20,000 books, including children's books. It is in converted classrooms and has shortage of space. There are small sections for catalogs, reading rooms, newspaper racks, magazine shelves, periodical journal stacks, news clipping reference section, a copy machine, and on-line computer services connecting to the UCLA and USC libraries. Since there is no room for any additional books, all new

books are being stored at Chalon. Readers and researchers rely on hourly shuttle service between the two campuses, or a 24-hour delivery service. There is also no air conditioning, no heating, no seminar or discussion rooms, and severe overcrowding especially in the PC terminal area.

The intended learning resource center will have enough rooms for students to use computer facilities, on-line services,

media telecommunications equipment with the capacity for interactive video conferencing. The existing learning resource center is at the opposite end of the hall from the library. The current capacity serves only 33 users. There are no separate spaces for the counselors of the center, students, audio facilities, or computers.

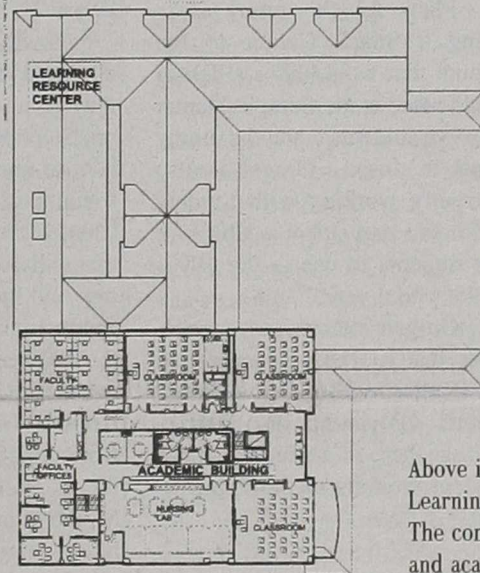
The academic building will be dedicated to the Health

interactive video conferencing to consult with health care professionals at hospitals throughout the state—perhaps even the country. These "experts-at-a-distance" will be able to contribute to classroom teaching without ever leaving their offices. With these high-tech resources at the students' hands, they will be able to augment classes and research. The existing classrooms for these programs at Doheny are located in what used to be a carriage house and in mobile units.

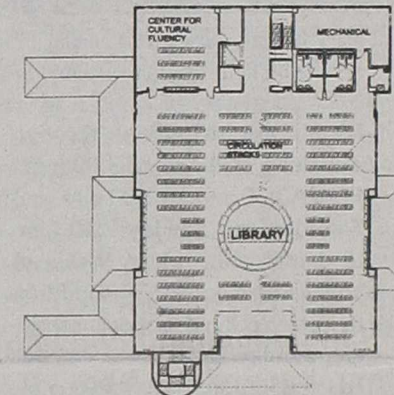
Completion of the complex is planned for the academic school year 1997-1998. Phase I of construction will complete the library and the learning resource center and Phase II will complete the academic building.

Funding has been provided by the \$40 million campaign for Mount St. Mary's College. A more than half of the \$40 million will be allocated to facilities improvements. Included in this category is the new Sister Magdalen Coughlin Learning Complex.

The complex is essential because Doheny is a learning institute focused on students' needs. The complex is designed to respond to these needs.



Above is the layout for the Sister Magdalen Coughlin Learning Complex to be built on the Doheny Campus. The complex will house a library, learning center, and academic building.



Education program at Doheny. The programs are Occupational Therapy Assistant, Physical Therapist Assistant, and the Associate Degree in Nursing. Health Education students will have the advantage of using

Carondelet Center Receives Needed Stabilization

By Summer Cervantez
Staff Writer

On clear days at Chalon campus, the view overlooking the city of Los Angeles can be astounding. Today, looking over the city, in the immediate view of Chalon campus, it is possible to see and hear the construction that began almost a year ago on the busy Carondelet Center.

The Carondelet Center, built between 1955 and 1959, is a retirement home for the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. Carondelet

Center, in addition, houses congregational administrators for the area province of the congregation.



Construction began last year to stabilize the Carondelet Center, a retirement home for the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet and a congregational administration building. (Photo by Moria Demby)

According to Sister Rose Adrian, Center Administrator, several years ago it was discov-

ered that the east side of the Carondelet Center was slipping slowly down the bedrock. The gradual slipping of Carondelet Center received close monitoring up until two years ago, when it was decided that, although there was no immediate danger, some minor problems and some general concern promoted the need to begin the stabilization construction. Some of the minor problems, according to Adrian, included, "recurrent problems with the

parking structure, blacktop cracking, and slipping pipes in the boiler room — damage fur-

thered by the last earthquake."

Tech/Jones Construction, Co., along with numerous engineers and landscapers, has been called in to fix the hillside. The project involves putting in three walls that are built on 163 piles—long, slender columns of steel—that are 100 feet deep into the bedrock and about 6 feet apart from each other. The stabilization effort will receive additional reinforcement with tire ducts that will be put into the bedrock and pulled with tension tiebacks. This reinforcement will hold the hill back at a downward pressure.

As with most construction projects, some inconveniences have arisen. These include extremely limited parking space, dust, noise pollution and little access to the front of the building. However, all the inconveniences should end around the middle of October, the estimated

date for the completion of the construction project.

"The estimated expense of the project," says Adrian, "is costly, not only for the construction, but because of the additional landscaping projects that are being done."

Costly or not, the repairs will be worth the time, money and inconvenience. Sister Mary Allen Rosholt, Treasurer of the Center, says, "The Center will be very stable with the sort of land stabilization that is being built."



The Newest Addition from the construction. (Photo by Moria Demby)

New Director Brings Changes to Food Services

By Reina Garcia
Staff Writer

Changes are brewing from Food Services Director, Mary Grogan. The new director of Food Services said, "We can prepare ourselves for something new and exciting." When I asked Cristina Solis a third year student at Chalon what she thought about the idea of having new changes she said, "I am very excited about the new director and the changes she wants to make such as the variety of food, because you can only eat so many enchiladas in one month." New ideas, plans for the future and our current menu are all major ingredients for her success, and the success of Food Services.

Mary Grogan graduated from a private, Catholic, liberal arts college for women. She later worked at Marymount Loyola on the East Coast and as she so proudly said, "The First Marymount." She is very happy here and to be a part of the Mount community.

When Grogan arrived she was surprised about how outdated the food program was at Chalon. The Mount staff was very receptive and excited about the changes she wanted to implement. Grogan's main focus and concerns are to help Chalon get up-to-date like Doheny; such as being able to implement new foods and services quickly to the population at Chalon. Her ultimate goal is to have people enjoy the food on both campuses.

Grogan has already implemented some of her new ideas. One of her ideas was to get the Espresso Cart that is outside on the Campus Center Patio. The



Mary Grogan, Director of Food Services (Photo by Moria Demby)

hours are Monday through Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Friday 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 7:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. when Weekend college is in session. In addition to the Weekend college schedule, Sunday Brunch was extended 9:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Grogan is also working right now with Andrea Willer, Fitness Education Director, to show the fat count, calorie count and

ingredients of each dish. She hopes to provide "an atmosphere of healthiness" that will lead to a healthy student and of course a healthy mind. Another idea brewing for next semester is to make minor changes that should improve the traffic flow that occurs at meal times so that there are not long lines.

Some new entrees that are being offered are a vegetarian meal, bulk cereal, a soup station and Minute Maid Juices. Grogan is also considering moving the Dessert Station away from the hot entrees. She also wants to increase the number of self-serve Hot Bars that will consist of a variety of foods. The ultimate new idea is "once-a-month theme meals" and "build your own sundae" bar.

Plans for the future is to bring a Snack Center to the Mount that would have a deli or pizza place in the Campus Center to serve students when the dining room is closed. Grogan is also currently working with Student Affairs to implement a debit card for students to use in the 1997-1998 school year.

Grogan encourages suggestions that can be dropped off in the Suggestion Box in the Dining Room. Grogan has also indicated that there is a need for more student workers at the Espresso Bar.

History of the Seal



Mount St. Mary's College seal, designed by Baker's Heraldic office of London, is in the form of a circular shield. The name of the College appears around the edge of the shield, and 1925 the date of its founding, is in the center. The shield itself has four divisions. An open book at the bottom center bears the college motto-Deus Illuminatio Mea-God My Light. At the upper center a lily surrounded by thorns symbolizes the Immaculate Conception of Mary. The fleur-de-lis of France at the upper right represents the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, established at Le Puy in France in 1650. At the upper left three angel wings with a rose signify the city of Los Angeles. The seal thus symbolizes Mount St. Mary's College founded in the City of Our Lady Queen of Angels by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet under the patronage of Mary, model of womanhood.

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209 because of the possible relevance it could have on Mount students, staff and faculty. Penya called Horizon's Day, "A good source of information for first time voters. It stressed the importance of the involvement of our age group and that we all need to become more aware."

Finally, a few more events are occurring at the Mount before the elections to help assist all voters in making informed decisions when they go into an election box. On Sunday, October 6, local town bishop, Stephen Blaire, has invited everyone to stay after Mass to hear a lecture about the elections, voting, and the Catholic teachings on social justice. The lecture will take place on Chalon, in the Mary Chapel. On October 24, the Debate Society will be hosting a forum that will be broadcasted by KCET. KCET invites the Mount community and the Brentwood community to come and listen to a panel on Proposition 209. Approximately 15 panel members will be chosen for the discussion. Look for more information, since the location for this event has not been finalized. On October 25, at 7:00 p.m. in the Lecture Hall, the League of Women Voters will be giving a Community Talk Lecture Series about all ballot issues. The hosts of the Community Talk Lecture Series wish to welcome not only the Mount community but all neighbors and interested voters who would like to attend.

Upcoming Cultural Events in the Los Angeles Area: A guide to this season's art, literature, and theater

On October 8, at 7:30 p.m., Sandra Cisneros, author of *The House on Mango Street*, and *Hollering Creek*, will be at the Center Green Theater. The cost of admission is \$2.00, and tickets can be ordered from Ticketron.

The "Save the Dream" Bus Tour to stop Prop. 209 will be on the Chalon Campus, at the Circle, on Wednesday, October 9, at 12:30 p.m. Special guest speakers on the tour will be: Eleanor Smeal, Anita Hill and Dolores Huerta.

At 7:30 p.m., on October 22nd, the Skirball Cultural Center will welcome John Edgar Wideman. Wideman, author of *Sent for You Yesterday* and *Philadelphia Fire*, will be discussing his latest book, *The Cattle Killing*. The cost of admission is \$10 for the general public, \$8 for members and \$5 for students.

On the 29th of October, the

Skirball Cultural Center welcomes Tobias Wolff, author of *This Boy's Life* and *In the Pharaoh's Army*. Wolff will talk about his recent book, *The Night in Question*. Prices are \$12 for the general public, \$8 for members and \$6 for students.

On October 25, the Community Talk Lecture Series will present, "Understanding the Ballot Initiatives," hosted by the League of Women Voters of Santa Monica. The lecture will be held on the Chalon campus in the Lecture Hall, at 7 p.m.

The works of Malibu photographic artists, Sondra Wampler and Timothy Wampler, will be exhibited at the Santa Monica College Photography Gallery, now through November 2. The Wampers' work includes color textured still lifes and black and white images showing man's intrusion on the landscape. The SMC Photography Gallery is in the foyer of the library. Hours are 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Monday

through Thursday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday.

The Picture of Dorian Grey, by Oscar Wilde and adapted for the stage by David Preece, is at the Knightbridge Theater, now through November 17. Tickets for the performances are available for \$15. The cost is \$10 for seniors over 65 and students under 25. Call (818)440-0821 for additional ticket information and reservations.

An adaptation of Isabel Allende's bestseller, *The House of Spirits*, will be at the Los Angeles Center Theater, now through November 3. The play alternates weekly in English and Spanish, with performances Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees at 3 p.m. Tickets for the performances are \$10 for students, teachers, seniors and members of the Entertainment Unions. For additional information please contact the Bilingual Foundation of the Arts at (213)226-1170 or

(213)225-4044.

At the Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA), on exhibition now through January 19, 1997, is "Just Past: The Contemporary in MOCA's Permanent Collection, 1975-1976." The exhibiton is a review of the museum's holdings from the past twenty years. The exhibition will be at The Geffen Contemporary building at MOCA. MOCA is open Tuesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Thursday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Cost of admission is \$6 for adults and \$4 for students and senior citizens. Admission is free on Thursdays from 5 to 8 p.m. For more information, call (213)626-6222.

Two new exhibitions will be on display at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, now through December 8. The first is "Memories of the Savoy: The Cinema Paintings of Patrick Morrison," and will feature fif-

teen of the Irish-born artist's large scale oil paintings. The second is "On Assignment for Life, Rex Hardy's Hollywood Photographs, 1936-1937," and will feature the images of *Life* magazine's first staff photographer assigned to Hollywood. Both exhibitions are free and open to the public. Hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and weekends, noon to 6 p.m. For more information, call (310)247-3600.

The Los Angeles Law School Forum will be coming to the Wyndham Hotel at the Los Angeles Airport. From Friday, November 8 through Saturday, November 9, more than 125 law schools from across the country will take part in a weekend recruitment fair sponsored by the Law School Admission Council. For additional information, please contact Sharon Kemble at (215)968-1204.

Student Profile

Maria Palacios: Student, Mother, Wife, Inspiration

By Nicole Bracy Chiravollatti
Contributing Writer

When Maria Palacios walks into a classroom at



Maria Palacios (Photo by Moria Demby)

Mount St. Mary's College, it is nearly impossible to detect the extraordinary life she leads. With a steady smile and energetic disposition, Maria resembles many of her fellow classmates. At first glance, one might assume that she is a commuter, a good student, and spends her free time with friends in the Campus Center.

As is the case in our busy, daily lives, we overlook the unique qualities that constitute each individual. We quickly pass each other in the halls or quietly acknowledge an acquaintance in the cafeteria, yet are not fully aware of the experiences and challenges each of us face. When one looks directly into the life of Maria Palacios, they may discover a strong, determined woman who values her family and children. Or, they may find a hard-working, serious student that cherishes her education. Through the life of Maria Palacios, one may find a role model.

Maria was born in Los Angeles 30 years ago. Although most of her family lives in Nicaragua, her immediate family lives with her in Los Angeles. Married for 13 years to Carlos Palacios, Maria has three children: Jamie, 12, Jasmine, 5, and Joshua, 3. To most college students, the demands of a husband and three children may seem overwhelming, yet Maria welcomes the challenge, explaining, "My kids watch me studying and they want to study too. When I involve them in my study time, they're actually more motivated to do their own work."

Two years ago, after attending Los Angeles City College, Maria transferred to the Mount. In her third year, she maintains 15 units at the Mount and three units at L.A.C.C. She plans to graduate this May, explaining, "Having faith in God gives me the strength, patience, and endurance I need. With His guidance, I hope to graduate this Spring."

In addition to a full load of classes this semester, Maria works 20 hours a week as a teacher's assistant at Twenty Fourth Street School in Los Angeles. During one of her shifts, she learned about the Mount through a co-worker: "I had some friends that spoke highly of the college. They're actually graduates of the college. They emphasized the fact that the entire Mount community really helps women who want to make a difference in their own lives and in the world."

As a liberal studies major, Maria plans to become an elementary school teacher. She has an overriding love for children, and has always envisioned herself as an educator of children. Maria states "I've always wanted to help out in society in some way, and I hope that as a teacher, I can serve as a positive role model to children."

Despite her heavy workload, demanding college schedule, and the responsibility of raising three children, Maria still finds time to help others with their schoolwork. She is often found in the Campus Center or library, working with classmates in need of tutoring.

With support from her family and a solid, consistent faith in God, Maria continues to study, work, raise her children, and maintain a loving relationship with her husband, Carlos. Her strength and determination serve as a source of inspiration to all who come in contact with her; she is already a role model to many. Maria offers some words of wisdom when she explains, "Never give up and don't let anything defeat you. As long as you really want something, and can feel it in your heart, you will succeed. But remember, always pray."

Feng Shui: Creating Balance Through Decorating

By Satoe Unoki
Staff writer

Feng shui ("wind and water") is an ancient Chinese practice that considers the environment a metaphor for everything that occurs in life. The Japanese adopted it and now refer to it as *Fu sui*. It is based on the idea that energy, or *chi*, in every space has its own personality. When the space you live in is arranged in harmony with nature, life can be good.

There are many levels of luck in Feng shui. People can move to the next higher level by changing the interior decoration of their house or room. Decoration includes everything from furniture, color, flowers, light, and plants. People absorb the various energies of the earth by where their house is located and how it is decorated. The simple placement and color of flowers can help with love, relationships, or money. When decorating with flowers, it is important not to use fake or potted flowers. Instead, place flowers in water and change the water everyday.

The North, East, South, West directions play a large part, because each has its own influence. The direction of North has the power to strengthen trust in any kind of human relationships. It is good to have a mountain shape in the North. Try to decorate with tall, big flowers that are pink or white if there are no mountains to the North of your living space. The direction of South has the power to build instincts or ideas to be used for art, popularity and planning. It is good to have a pair of tall bright orange flowers in the South. The direction of West has a strong influence on money. It is good to have gentle mountain shape in the West, so try to decorate with yellow flowers in a gentle mountain shape. Yellow refers to harvest which means money as well. The direction of East can help improve your self-assertion, energy, and readiness to face challenges. To make an impression, decorate with red flowers in the East.

The art of Feng shui can also help your love life: To be involved in a good relationship, place bed in Southeast corner with head placed in East. When you want to attract a man, open a window in the morning, but only if there is one in the east. If there is no window in the East, place something red there instead. Also try putting flowers in the Southeast (flowers can be pink, red or yellow). If involved in a relationship with someone for a long time, but it seems like there is no development, then decorate anything connected with you and your partner and put it in the North. The North has the power to bring people closer together. If worried about jealousy, make sure that the entrance of the bedroom is bright.

In general, the placement of furniture affects your energy levels and your access to the earth's energy in Feng shui. Here are some suggestions for the bedroom: Place the head of the bed against a solid wall, in the corner farthest from the entry, with the greatest view of the entire room. Friends turn false and support disappears when the bed is placed against a glass or fake wall. Do not place the bed directly opposite the door or window; this position drains energy. If necessary, create a barrier between the bed and door or window with furniture or plants. Do not use the space under the bed for storage unless you want to dream of what is stored. Avoid clutter and heavy, inappropriate furniture. Clutter acts as an impediment to subtle energy forces. Childish toys and furniture keep one in a child-like state. To bring more life and vitality to the bedroom, use three plants: one near the entry, one near the bed, and another near the exit or window, making a curved path for the *chi*.

Feng shui can be very fun and easy to try for your own room or house. There are many books on the subject. Trying any of these suggestions with a positive attitude you may see changes in your life.

—excerpted partially from *New Woman* magazine, August 1996, and *Fu-sui marugoto jiten* by Dr. Kopa



Feng Shui — Putting your bed on a solid wall, in a corner, farthest from the entrance, with the largest view of the entire room, is one way to improve your energy level. Decorating with flowers in different colors can also have positive benefits. (Photo by Moria Demby)

The Importance of the Crane in Origami and Japanese Culture

By Yuki Ito
Staff Writer

Origami is the Japanese traditional art of folding paper into different shapes or objects, such as birds, animals, dolls, boats. Most Japanese children learn *origami* in kindergarten. *Origami* is rooted in ancient Japanese religious rituals. In ancient Japan, paper was thought to contain a spirit and thus could not be cut: only folding ensured the spirit's survival.

The crane (*tsuru*), a bird that the Japanese regard as a symbol for "a thousand years" of long life and good fortune, is the most popular *origami* shape. Japan

Airlines uses a crane as its company logo. Folding and stringing together "a thousand cranes" (*sembazuru*) is thought to make a wish come true, so we give *sembazuru* as expressions of sympathy to someone who is in the hospital.

The crane also represents a happy marriage, so we use it at a wedding ceremony. When we send invitations for a wedding, we use special stamps of a crane. Most of the decorations for a wedding have a crane. For example, there are many pictures of small cranes on wed-

ding table cloths. The tradition comes from a story that was once told to children about a man and a crane who fell in love. At a wedding ceremony, a bride and groom drink Japanese alcohol from a small bowl (*sakazuki*). *Sakazukis* have a picture of a crane.

There used to be many cranes in Japan, unfortunately the number of cranes has decreased due to environmental problems. The crane is now one of the special birds of Japan, and it is said that it can only be found in Hokkaidou, northern Japan.

Higher Education Issues

COLLEGE COSTS AND STUDENT AID

-Republican Platform:

Calls on colleges to cut costs and stop wasting money on regulations, paperwork, and "political correctness." Seeks an end to the Clinton Administration's "perverse direct lending program."

-Democratic Platform:

Proposes new scholarships and tax incentives to help students attend college.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

-Republican Platform:

Calls for more federal support for research into Alzheimer's disease, breast cancer, and diabetes, and into diseases that affect women.

-Democratic Platform:

Vows to find a cure for AIDS and breast cancer and to continue strong support for research on women's issues.

OTHER RESEARCH

-Republican Platform:

Pledges strong government support for basic research, but says that applied research is best carried out by the private sector.

-Democratic Platform:

Calls for a permanent tax credit for research and development.

ARTS AND HUMANITIES

-Republican Platform:

Calls for eliminating support for the National Endowment of the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

-Democratic Platform:

Favors continued public support for the arts.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

-Republican Platform:

Says that no one should be denied a job or a chance at higher education because of race or gender. Favors federal legislation to end "discrimination" by the federal government and endorses the California Civil Rights Initiative, which would bar state agencies — including public colleges — from engaging in affirmative action.

-Democratic Platform:

Calls for reforming, but not ending, affirmative action, so that it promotes opportunity but "does not accidentally hold others back."

—The Chronicle of Higher Education, September 6, 1996

Democracy In Action: Mount events encourage participation

By Summer Cervantez
Staff Writer

November 5th marks the day when all U.S. citizens—regardless of race, gender, background or beliefs—are offered a chance to make themselves heard in the government by casting their vote on the local, state and national levels.

At the Mount, there are various events, campaigns and competitions that are hoping to encourage all eligible students, staff and faculty to register and to vote in November.

Competitions have been established to motivate and generate participation. One election competition has pitted the Mount against two other California women's colleges: Scripps in Claremont and Mills in Oakland. The goal is to see which college can obtain 100 percent or near 100 percent registration of students, staff and faculty. In order to gather registration data, Campus Ministry conducted a poll.

Not only is there a competition between schools, there will also be a competition at the Mount between students and the staff and faculty. As of September 25th, the results were as follows: Scripps total was at

75 percent, the Mount is at 90 percent, and Mills was still unreported. The Mount faculty and staff are in the lead though, with 100 percent voter registration. First year student, Mitzi Angeles,

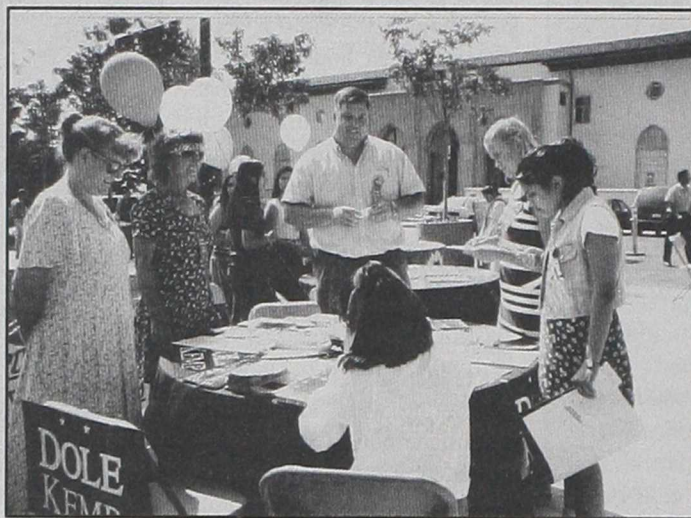
have a say on the laws and issues that will impact us."

To participate in these competitions and the election process, the Mount has established an "easy access" voter registration setup. Students can vote on campus in the Lecture Hall at Chalon on November 5th and all of the Mount community is invited to register by stopping by at Campus Ministry. Gail Gresser, Director of Campus Ministry, reminds voters that after registration the next

to make a connection between the world they live in and their vote. "Our students are students who care about those who are hurt, and they show this in their service and volunteer commitment to the community. It is important for students to recognize that there is a connection between helping the community even more by voting," Gresser comments.

On September 25th, the focus of Horizon's Day was the upcoming election. Students were able to gather in the Circle to visit tables on information about various election topic and political parties. The key focus of Horizon's Day was the presentation of data concerning the California Civil Rights Initiative, Proposition 209. Two students from Chalon, Trish Pena and Catherine Bejerana; along with two students from Doheny, Jennifer Allende and Lucy Ramirez, presented a detailed explanation of the proposition. Other special speakers included Carolyn Webb de Macias, the Chief of Staff for L.A. City Councilman Mark Ridley-Thomas and Laurie Levenson, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at Loyola Law School. Levenson presented legal implications of the proposition and reasons why to vote against it. Organizers of Horizon's Day chose to highlight Proposition 209 because of the impact it

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Mount students check out the Republican Party table in the Circle during Horizon's Day. (Photo by Moria Demby)

commented that, "I think it is great to see the college put such an effort into encouraging registration and voting. The emphasis on making a difference through casting your vote can not be stressed enough."

Emily Langdon, Director of Student Activities, reminds everyone of the real reason to vote this election, "There are so many issues that directly concern our students, staff and faculty, especially about issues about women, race and student financial aid. These issues make it essential to cast our votes and

thing that needs to be done is to become informed about the candidates, issues and ballot measures. Gresser looks at voting as, "a way to affect our community

From a poll conducted on Horizon's Day:
"If you could vote now, who would get your support?"

Bob Dole	15
Bill Clinton	169
Other	6
Total=	190

and world," and wants students

Perspective on Politics: Handouts to the Sheep and election 1996

This year *The Oracle* will be featuring a column written by a member of the faculty or staff, on issues about which they believe the student body needs information.

This issue's contributor is Father Aloysius Michael, Associate Professor of Religious Studies.

NBC Nightly News reported on September 9, 1996 that sheep in the U.S. would receive a multi-million dollar handout. Not exactly, though the sheep industry owners are to receive a multi-million dollar handout because the industry is in a state of decline. An Idaho congressman sneaked this item into a bill hoping no one would notice it.

Handouts are part of our democratic system. Mount students receive less than their peers at UCLA. Farmers receive more in subsidies than welfare mothers. Remember the debate on welfare queens during the Reagan Era? Did Ronald Reagan ever raise the issue of Corporate Welfare? Pat Buchanan did bring it up when he ran for the Republican presidential nomination. Powerful special interest groups can protect their sacred cows. Nobody wants their ox gored.

To rouse the party faithful, politicians resort to smoke and mirrors, sentimental stories, and subliminal ads. Their speeches are designed to conceal rather than reveal. The function of their hired spin doctors is to confuse and manipulate the masses.

Students have historically resisted political manipulation. During the divisive Vietnam War, student voices were heard, their blood

shed, and America listened. We do not have a war today. Saddam Hussein is really a side show. We do not have soldiers coming back in body bags.

We have other problems: children killing children, sleeping babies shot in their cribs, parents murdering children, adolescents seduced by Joe Camel, 60,000 women dying of lung cancer, and 40,000 women dying of breast cancer.

At the Republican Convention in San Diego and at the Democratic Convention in Chicago we saw babies on display and we heard a lot about family values. How is one to square the sentimental show with the feminization of poverty?

In every election we, the people, set the course for the future. Citizens have to be familiar with the issues: tax cuts and budget cuts, student loans and corporate handouts, children's future and ballooning entitlements, welfare and immigration reform, guns and safety, drugs and tobacco, military aid as foreign aid, partial birth abortion and active euthanasia, wage stagnation and income disparities, job opportunities and health care insecurities, the role of bureaucracy at the service of the poor or as the reason for the poor, moral agenda and social engineering.

These issues affect the entire body politic. College students are in a privileged position to think, evaluate, judge, and vote on all the vital issues of the day. They can not afford to vote on single issues but on the whole wide spectrum of issues effecting the well-being of the nation. Women students, in particular, have an even greater obligation to vote because it was a right which their grandmothers and great-grandmothers won for them after a long, bitter struggle. The future of democracy lies in the capacity of its citizens to separate sentimentality from substance, rhetoric from reality. Their focus will be not common greed, but common good.



(Photo by Moria Demby)

The Media and its Faults: Election Coverage

By Varsana Staszak
Assistant Editor

What is news? Where do you get it, and how does it affect you? As voters and citizens, it is important to be informed. Or is it? We can continue to perform our daily functions without being disturbed by events in the news.

But wait — weren't you in that traffic jam covered by the six o'clock news? Wasn't your mother or father part of the big lay-off at that multi-national company profiled by the *Times*? Doesn't the California Civil Rights Initiative affect you as a student, as a woman, as a minority? Maybe this means you are actually part of the news. Stop and think. What are you striving to become? Will you be serving your community? Most of you will take an active role wherever you are. You can't afford to be ignorant. So where can you go to be enlightened?

Jim Delahanty Ph.D., Chair of the Department of History and Political Science, stated that the media, print and TV, "inform people of what they want to know...Networks cater to the general public. The orientation of newspapers and television changes as audiences change." Does this mean the general public has a desire to hear daily stories of violence and mayhem and *Hard Copy*-esque accounts of celebrity scandal? These kinds of stories do seem to work for the network ratings and they are the easiest stories to tell. News pro-

grams have very limited time segments for each story. They need quick and easy visuals. Delahanty said, "People suffering is a good story," because it provides all of these things to the network reporter.

Jill Perry, Director of Public Relations at the Mount, agreed that "there is a preconception that bad news wins out." However, newspapers are more balanced because they include both good news and bad news stories.

What about complaints of too much violence shown on TV? "That violence is shown, has contributed to the belief that violence is greater than it actually is. [The depiction of violence on the news] increases the [public's] fear of violence, but I doubt it increases the actual violence," said Delahanty. An editorial in the September 1, 1996 issue of *Woman's Day* magazine supports this claim. It states that "...reports [of violence] have created widespread fear and anxiety among children, parents and others concerned about America's kids...the prevailing perception of American schools as perilous, frightening places that are totally out of control is not only wrong, but dangerous."

Important stories are often left out of the news. In television, this is because there is less time and staff to deal with such stories. Again, newspapers are

able to include important stories because it is a "less labor-intensive" media, according to Perry. Delahanty explained that "long-range problems and complex stories tend to be avoided and are not deemed to be newsworthy" in television because they are more difficult to comprehend. In other words, "Importance does

In a recent survey, students of the Chalon Campus, were asked "Where do you get your news?" One hundred fifteen students responded.

Television	31.3%
Newspaper	25.2%
Radio	14.8%
Word of Mouth	14.8%
Silent Radio	5.2%
Magazines	3.5%
Chalon News	2.6%
Pager	1.7%
Online	0.8%
—Poll conducted by Mary Barrett	

not equal interest," according to Delahanty. Perry added that there are political reasons stories are sometimes left out of the news. The media may make a deal with a political candidate not to release incriminating evidence about that candidate if that candidate promises not to run for office.

Delahanty claims that, "pol-

itics is dependent upon media, and the media is dependent on politics." He explained this is why there is no "deep investigation" of politics. He went on to say that the government censors the media, and is sometimes successful. "It is in the nature of power-holders to bully others, to keep others from seeing their mistakes, to protect their investment, and to prevent negative news," continued Delahanty, "The media must say 'no' to this."

How does the media, especially television, affect elections? Perry believes that elections are drastically influenced by television coverage and commercials. Delahanty believes that those 30-second ads are the "most biased and the least trustworthy." He illustrated the effect they have — "For most people, politics is not very important. They don't care, so therefore they are easily swayed. Those commercials play to the uneducated viewer, not the informed voter who is the least changeable and least swayed." Perry also gave the example of the practice of national news stations to post election results from the East and Midwest, before polls close in the West. This may decide for many Western voters whether they will vote or not.

Then how can we get a complete and accurate view of the

candidates and the issues? According to Delahanty, "the medium itself...is the only way to know." However, he added that, "the media does not push us toward any one view or candidate. Although reporters are atypical of society, this only makes a difference when deciding what is important to cover." Essentially, "television helps us decide whether we want to maintain the status quo, or not," continued Delahanty.

Of all the sorts of media, there must be one that can fit every person's needs. Delahanty suggested that more serious television viewers watch more specialized channels, like PBS or C-SPAN. In fact, with the influx of news from places like the World Wide Web and the Internet via cable, consumers will have a lot more to choose from. Unfortunately, this great amount of information may prove to be unmanageable. Also, Perry noted that on the internet, there is not an option of glancing at a newspaper page and finding something interesting and valuable that you may not have purposefully looked for in the first place. However, she also mentioned that national media outlets are cutting back due to economic reasons. "Coverage will become much more specific to what consumers want to know," said Perry.

Family, Politics, and Mashed Potatoes: Aaaaahh, what a combination

By Andrea Graybehl
Contributing Writer

There are a few universal truths that have withstood time,



(Photo by Moria Demby)

evolution and a trip through the automatic spin-cycle of my washing machine. One principle relates to the practice of religion: It is never acceptable to complain about the use of grape juice as a substitute for wine. The second truth is specific to sex: When in doubt, always use 'human kind' to describe a group of people. When I consider the third—and most important—concept that governs my life, I fondly recall that all I ever needed to know about politics, I learned at the dinner table: Aim high when flinging mashed potatoes at your ideological foe.

I was able to formulate my

political philosophy at the tender age of five. I listened attentively as my dad ranted about the evils of the hippies, commies, and general long-haired freaks who hijacked his imagination, and then dreamt of joining the merry band of liberal lunatics he mumbled about. I was intrigued by the prospect of singing neat diddies about "the age of Snufalupagus." Although my dad would fire various epithets at the TV whenever Jimmy Carter appeared, I knew that alignment with "Mr. Peanut Head" was far preferable to trusting in Ronald Reagan, whom, I believed, resembled a fruit bat.

I never told my father that I arrived at my political persuasions by intentionally adopting opinions that were contrary to his own. He wailed, "Where did I go wrong?" when I pledged my allegiance to the Democratic Party, I told him that I idolized Geraldine Ferraro, and I thought nukes were bad. Besides, I reminded him, Dan Quayle rated a negative score on the "Cute Politician" scale. But Illinois Senator Richard Gephardt...what a babe! I admit, it was great fun to annoy my dad. After all, he was the King of the Beasts—

political and all. He taught me to cherish my right to vote, and to celebrate freedom. It was my destiny to major in Political Science; my fate to become a participant in the democratic process. But my choice of political parties?? Let's just say that I ended up with mashed potatoes in my eyebrows on more than one occasion.

After three years of grueling political science courses, I had finally developed into a political animal. Now I was ready to emerge from the dark den and bare my fangs. I had my chance one afternoon when my family went out to lunch. There is something about restaurant air that fuels political debate, as some of our best arguments were made at booth-side. Despite my mother's exasperated warnings of "Please...don't start" I quickly sunk my teeth into the meat of what really mattered: Did Bob Dole even have a prayer of defeating Clinton? My dad continued to munch on his steak. Seeing a window of opportunity, I sensed that I could zap him with some nasty criticisms of Dole's proposed tax cuts. I torched the Republicans, but to no avail. The only thing my dad

was biting was his prime cut of beef. Like Pete Wilson, the California Governor, at the Republican convention, I slunk down in my seat and fell silent.

"No. The answer is no," my dad finally said.

"What?...I mean...what?" I stammered. For a second, I thought I had done the John MacLaughlin Group proud with my debate prowess. For an even shorter second, I thought maybe I had a convert on my hands. Had my father finally seen the liberal light?

"Clinton will be re-elected. Dole is too old—too out of touch," he mumbled.

I couldn't believe what I was hearing. My die-hard conservative pop had no faith in his beloved party's candidate. What a victory! What cause for celebration! What an example of ageism! What an example of ageism.

I was dumbfounded. And I was stuck. I couldn't let my father attack Dole because of his age when there were so many other things wrong with him. If voters supported Clinton just because they assumed that Dole's age impaired him from making good decisions, then the

Democrats' win would be cheapened by age discrimination. But wouldn't I be a defector by defending the opposition?

"If you think that Dole is a loser because he is eligible to collect Social Security, you're wrong. I'll give you some *real* reasons why he'll send this country to hell in a casket. But your assumption is ageist," I said in all of my politically correct glory.

Dad was incredulous. I had done the unthinkable—I defended a member of the deadbeat Establishment. But I did it in the name of fairness and respect to senior citizens. I had the blessings of Confucius and the Gray Panthers with me.

"You know, what? Clinton is an idiot! He must be stopped," my dad said slowly. He grinned slyly.

"Do you wanna talk about idiots? Okay...I've got a doozy for you! His name is Curt Pringle (Assembly Speaker), and he's got a lock in that department!"

And so the personal got political, and the political got personal—just the way my dad and I preferred it.

When is Mexico's Independence Day?

By Jenny E. Hernandez
Contributing Writer

"What is the difference between September 16th and Cinco de Mayo?" my friend asked. Year after year, I become more and more tired of different people asking me this question. Celebrating Cinco de Mayo in Mexico would be like celebrating the 18th of June in the United States. It has no value. Cinco de Mayo is the date for one of the many battles won by Mexicans throughout their struggle for freedom. In this battle, they defeated the French. It is equal to one of the many battles America fought and won in its struggle for independence.

The 16th of September is the date Mexico won independence from Spanish domination. It is equivalent to the Fourth of July in the United States. So, why is it I keep hearing the same question year after year? The reason is that we have "Americanized" Cinco de Mayo for our own satisfaction. We are satisfied to include the Mexican people as a group which has helped shape the American culture.

Hopefully when next year comes around, you will remember that Mexican Independence Day is celebrated on September 16th, not on the 5th of May.

Ask Athena

By Athena Goddess of War and Wisdom, and the Mount mascot

Q: Why are men afraid to show their emotions?
A: Most people are afraid to show their emotions—their innermost fears, those places where they have been hurt deeply. People rarely want to be vulnerable. Men have been taught not to show their emotions. Starting from early childhood on they are told to "Buck up...be a man... Most men would love to be Hercules. When he was a baby in his cradle, he strangled two serpents that were about to eat him up. Most men think a strong man doesn't show emotions. We just need to be happy with men.

Q: I miss my high school friends. What should I do?
A: There are many fun ways to



keep in touch with your high school buds and share your new college experiences. Try the internet; everyone is on it these days. Start a pass-it-along letter, where each friend adds something

and sends it to the next friend. Plan a mini reunion during vacation time. Agree to send pictures of important or fun events. Send cards on special days. Don't worry. Your separation isn't as tragic as Hero and Leander's. But you can still make an effort like Leander did by swimming across the sea to visit Hero in her tower. And the results will be much brighter. (You won't drown and be turned into wild-flowers.)

Letter to the Editor

Horizon's Day Committee explains intent

Dear Students:

On Wednesday, September 25, another campus in Los Angeles looked at Proposition 209, just as we did during our panel presentation on Horizon's Day. At Cal State Northridge, however, riot police had to come to intercede in a breakout of violence. In contrast, at the Mount, a wide range of political parties were represented in the Circle and a rousing, yet peaceful discussion of the initiative took place. We're proud of this and thank each of you for your tolerance, support, enthusiasm and involvement. It is our sincere hope that each of you will carry on in the spirit of Horizons Day—to become informed on the important issues of the day and to VOTE!

We would like to respectfully acknowledge the concern expressed by some students who wished an outside speaker was present who supported Proposition 209, in order that a more balanced panel was achieved. It was in fact intended and anticipated by the committee that all positions would be presented to you. We hope you agree with us, though, that our fine Mount students did provide an excellent outline of the proposition and what both the opponents and proponents have to say about it.

Our recommendation is, whether you judged the day to be wonderful or less-than-wonderful, for all of you to become a part of future public discussions, voice your position (as we're very pleased to note did occur), and facilitate the expression of diverse opinions! The opportunity to exchange ideas and build intelligent awareness on the challenges of our society is crucially needed. Carry on! You are the future leadership of this country.

Sincerely,
Pam Haldeman and Pat Disterhoft
Co-chairs, Horizons Day 1996

Cultural Flush: Inside Japanese and American bathrooms

By Yuki Ito
Staff Writer

I was very surprised when I saw someone's feet from the big gap in the bathroom between the door and the floor. I still feel embarrassed to have others see my feet from the gap. Western style bathrooms in Japan do not have as large of a gap as they do in the United States.

There are some differences between Japanese and Western style bathrooms. Japanese style toilet rims are level with the ground and the toilet bowls are in the ground. The bowls are also more oval than Western



(Photo by Moria)Demby

ones. Japanese style toilets are separate from the showers and the bathtubs. First, we change into special slippers for the toilet room. Then we squat facing our backs to the door without touching the toilet. An American said to me, "I like the Japanese style bathrooms because it is clean. It's good for disease." An assistant English teacher at my high school said, "I think Japanese people use the bathroom so they can live long. It's hard for the old, but good exercise." For handicapped people it is difficult to use the Japanese style toilets. Western style toi-

lets are more comfortable and easier to use compared with Japanese ones. That is why the number of Western style toilets are on the increase in Japan.

The shower and the bathtub are in the same room, but are separate. Neither the shower nor the bathtub have curtains. First, we take a shower using soap, and rinse. Then we take a bath. We usually do not put soap into the bathtub. Every member of a family uses the same water and we change the water everyday. There are a lot of hot springs in Japan which Japanese people enjoy using for pleasure and healing. One of them is very famous because monkeys use it. Do you want to try a Japanese style toilet or bathroom?

Nurture the Body and the Spirit

By Jean Day
Contributing Writer

What do you think of when you think of fitness? Well, for most people fitness is immediately associated with exercise only. This misconception has led many people to concentrate their energies on one particular area of their life while neglecting others. I decided to design a column which highlights all components of the "self".

Each of us enjoys feeling and looking good. For many of us, we seek out various ways to feed these basic needs. There are other components that we may not realize play a major part in enhancing all that we are. For example, exercise helps a person feel good by releasing endorphins, but it also helps us feel better about our physical presence. Have you ever considered some of the other parts of yourself? There are the spiritual, mental, and physical components that combined together give us our whole self. Of course, under these components are sub-components that also play a role in designing who we are. Nurturing all of these components is what fitness is really all about. Here are some ideas on

how to enhance and gain insight into the other parts of who we are.

There are various ways for each of us to explore our mental side. Mental incorporates the emotional and intellectual. Giving this component of ourselves the nurturing that it needs is vital. Biologically speaking, it allows us to stimulate our brain cells, but also discover our emotions and our reactions. Have you ever read a book or article that left you reflecting about yourself? Reading books is a great way to explore this side. Books can have a powerful impact on our intelligence and emotions. We can be carried off into a whole different world from a book. Music is another great source. Music can illicit our emotional responses probably like no other form of entertainment. Try playing music you would never play and see how it makes you feel. You may be surprised at what you find out.

Getting in touch with our spiritual side is usually very personal. Some people choose to go to church, others choose to meditate or read about a particular

religion that they enjoy. If you are currently a member of a particular religious affiliation, try leading a study group or organizing one. If you have no religious preference, go to a bookstore and sit and read all kinds of books on various religions. Whatever you believe, just make sure that you allow yourself some time to enjoy certain rituals that help you along your path.

You can not forget your physical side. This side is probably our most visible. Feeling good about who we are can be enhanced a great deal by taking care of the physical side. Like the other components, it helps us to feel good about being who we are. Exercising, eating right, and pampering ourselves can help increase our self confidence because we feel like we are taking good care of ourselves. Get an exercise partner, buy some new perfume or an outfit, but just make time.

Take care of your mind, body, and spirit. Take advantage of your resources on campus. That little amount of time can make all the difference.

The Oracle of Mount St. Mary's College

The opinions expressed in signed columns and letters are the author's, not necessarily the views of the staff or Mount St. Mary's College. Unsigned columns do reflect the shared views of *The Oracle* staff. All correspondence to *The Oracle* should be addressed to: The Oracle, Box 52, 12001 Chalon Road, Los Angeles, CA 90049. Sorry, but we do not print unsigned letters.

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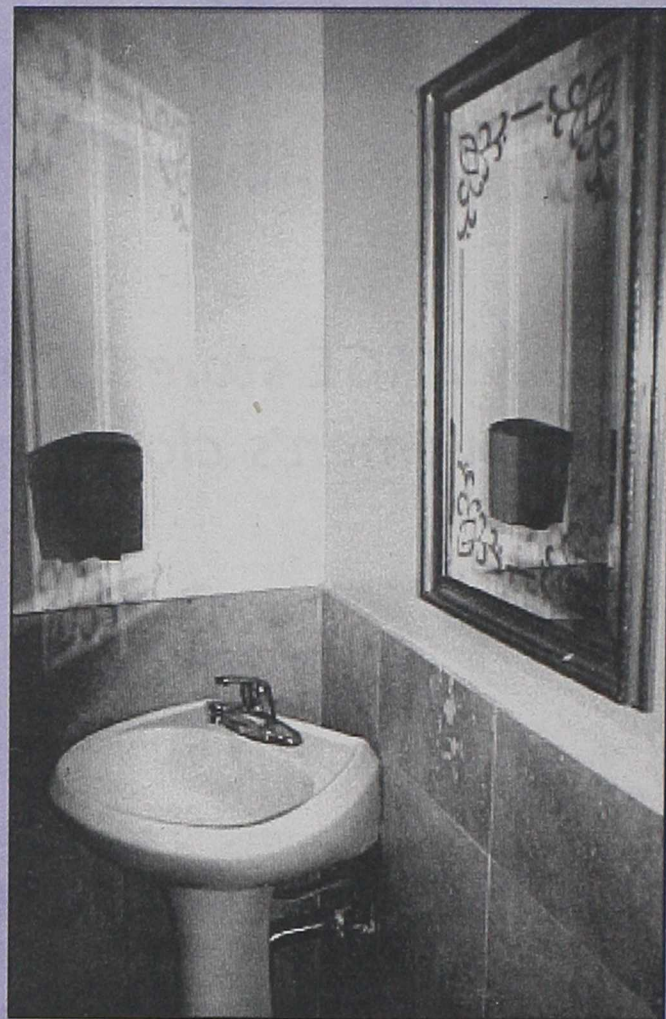
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The Best Bathrooms...

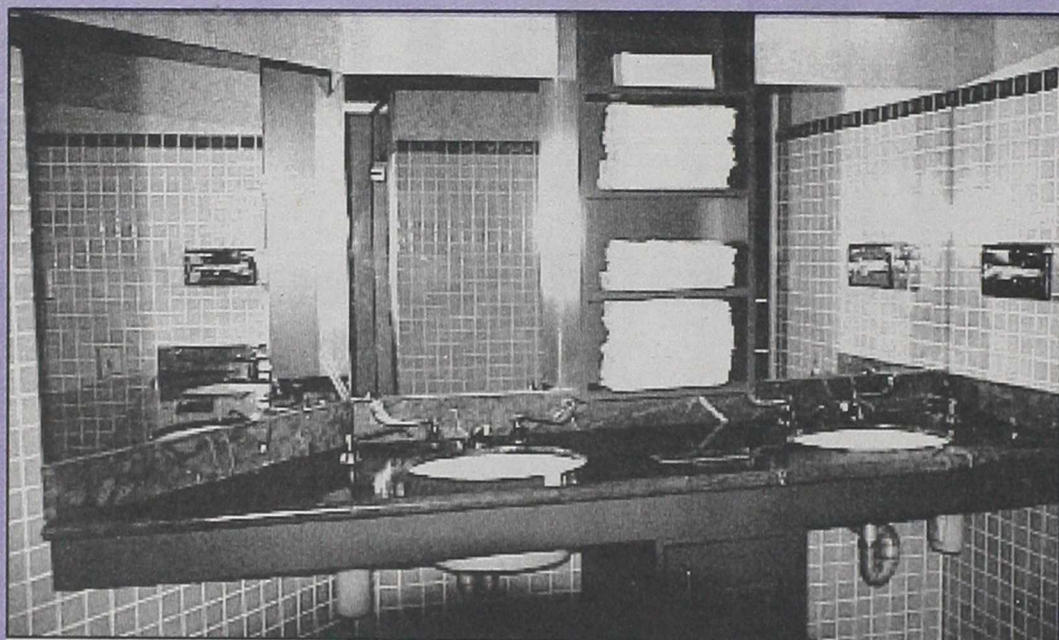


Adjacent to the Chalon campus are many beautiful restaurants and contained within them are restrooms, some matching the quality of the restaurant and some not. In looking at the bathrooms we considered cleanliness, creativity, and personality. We found the *best* and pictured them here.

Cafe K' Milano (left): This contemporarily designed restroom is located at 11600 San Vicente Blvd. It was chosen as one of the best bathrooms in the area because of the modern touch adding to an already classic appearance.



Gauche Grill (above right): The personality of the restroom earned our recognition because the decor, simple and natural, is in sync with the remainder of the restaurant itself, located at 11756 San Vicente Blvd.



Pacific Dining Car (center): Every aspect of this restaurant is a replica of a train's dining car, including the fully equipped bathroom. Also, the brass plaque on the wall instructs the users not to flush the toilets while the train is stopped. Established in 1921, it is at 2700 Wilshire Blvd.



Divino (left/right): This new Italian Restaurant is housed at 11704 Barrington Court at the corner of Sunset Blvd., and Barrington Ave. This finely decorated bathroom caught our eyes with its beautiful mirrors and creatively painted walls. Though not captured by black and white film, the walls are a bright combination of blue, purple and green pastels. A visit to the bathroom is worth the price of the pasta!

(All Photos by Moria Demby)



The Oracle

of Mount St. Mary's College

November 1996

Volume 2

Number 2

Focus on Education: National Coming Out Day Recognized on Chalon Campus

•As Chalon ASB Cultural Co-chairs launched a campaign to educate Chalon students on National Coming Out Day and the realities of being gay, lesbian, or bisexual, students, staff and faculty deal with a wide range of opinions

By Summer Cervantez
Staff Writer

Sexuality is a fundamental dimension of every human being. For many men and women, sexuality means a discovery that their sexual inclinations, thoughts, feelings, and behaviors are oriented toward persons of the same sex, or to both sexes. The medical and behavioral sciences are still inconclusive about why persons are homosexual or bisexual. However, whether genetics, hormones, or variations in psychological upbringings are the cause, the emotional issues are ones that are faced by 30 million gays, lesbians, and bisexuals everyday.

On October 11, a controversial national event, National Coming Out Day was celebrated. National Coming Out Day is a day set aside to commemorate the 1987 March On Washington for civil rights and a day set forth to encourage gays, lesbians, and bisexuals who are still in the "closet" about their sexuality to come out to friends, family, and co-workers. The day also encourages friends, family, and co-workers to offer support and comfort to anyone who chooses to come out to them on that day. Carol Povenmire, Mount Counselor, offers some insight, "Gays, lesbians, and bisexuals have the only identity that they have to consistently explain to people. If I were African-American, a woman, handicapped, it would be obvious just what my identity was."

National Coming Out Day was recognized on the Chalon campus first by Cultural Co-chairs, Michele Nguyen and Julie Ahn. Ahn felt, "It was important to educate everyone about diversity, and this was a great way to give exposure to a topic that needs discussing." Nguyen and Ahn made a display for the bulletin board in the foyer, and posted fact sheets all around campus. "What we did had never been done," Nguyen

said, "National Coming Out Day is an important day. Just because we are a Catholic college doesn't mean we can't address the issue."

On October 15, in the Little Theater, an informational session sponsored by the Cultural Co-chairs, was held for those seeking more facts and those with questions about homosexual and bisexual orientation. According to Nguyen, "the turnout, which totaled about 35 people all together, was better than anyone had expected."

A supporter of the events on Chalon campus, is Christina Cox, a first year student, who wants to establish a club on campus for homosexuals and bisexuals, and those interesting in supporting homosexuals and bisexuals. She is currently in the process of writing the constitution. Cox wants to stress, "the club will not just be for gays, lesbians, and bisexuals, but for

everyone." The focus will be to promote ideals of awareness, education and support. Cox hopes to provide speakers to address such issues as homophobia, the Catholic view of same-sex relationships, and sexually transmitted diseases. Cox claims that the reason for the development of the club has a lot of personal meaning. "I have suffered the consequences of homophobia. Instead of anger, denial, and violence, we must educate and work towards understanding."

The primary issue is Catholicism's view on homosexuals and bisexuals. It has only been within the last 20 years that the Catholic Church has taken a more lenient stance on homosexuality. According to Gail Gresser, Director of Campus

Ministry, the official view on homosexuality is that homosexual or bisexual orientation in and of itself is not a sin because it does not appear to be a freely chosen lifestyle. The Catholic Church encourages gays, lesbians, and bisexuals to remain active in the church. Church leaders remind all Catholics, as Gresser states, "Homophobia is the greater evil." The United States Catholic Bishops in 1991 issued this statement: "Mindful of the inherent and abiding dignity of every human being, we reaffirm what we wrote in 1976, namely that 'homosexual persons,' like everyone else, should not suffer from prejudice against their basic human rights. They have a right to respect, friendship, and justice."

However, as many homosexuals or bisexuals can tell you, this acceptance has a Catch-22. Gresser explains, "Because all sexual activity outside of marriage is sinful, and homosexuals cannot marry, to live within the laws of the church, they are asked to lead lives of chastity, in order to avoid living in sin." An anonymous bisexual commented, "Such hypocrisy! It's like walking towards someone with open arms but kicking them once

NCOD continued on page 3



Approximately 35 students attended an informational session on October 15, where Christina Cox and Jeannette Villalva focused on educating students with questions about the gay, lesbian, and bisexual lifestyle. (Photo by Moria Demby)

Computer Pilot Program Launched

By Marla Ferguson
Editor in Chief

The age of computers has been fast upon us, and this year the Mount has taken a step right into it. With the help of the Teagle Foundation, the Mount was able to implement a computer pilot program facilitated in the newly constructed computer lab located in the Drudis-Biada Hall.

Three years ago a task force was put together to focus on improving the writing skills of Mount students. They wanted to be able to teach good writing in any discipline. The college put together the funds to construct the new computer lab, including the purchase of the computer; the task force explored funding options for educating the faculty and staff that would be working with this pilot program. The Teagle Foundation was able to help.

The Teagle Foundation's major interest is grant giving to private higher education, especially small liberal arts colleges.

A proposal, "Teaching Where Learning Happens," was submitted to the Teagle Foundation in October 1995, expressing the need for funds to educate the faculty and staff involved in the initial computer pilot program. The Teagle Foundation approved a



Students in the new facility use computer programs to improve writing skills. (Photo by Moria Demby)

\$65,250 grant. Construction began on the former art room during the summer, while the faculty and staff participants hired consultants, attended conferences, and replanned syllabi.

Due to the limited time of three months, when classes began in September the computer lab was not finished. According to Sister Mary Williams, who is chairing the project, "Three months just wasn't long enough to finish, the

ordering of furniture takes time." The classes being taught in the new computer lab are from many different disciplines, including Nursing, English, Religious Studies, Sociology, and Chemistry. Those faculty who are teaching in the pilot program have weekly meetings to discuss success and failures. "It is a learning experience. We are trying to see what

will work best since the value of the room hasn't been fully tested," said Sister Mary McKay. According to McKay students have been fairly receptive to the teaching through computers, and she has only lost two students in her class due to being uncomfortable with working on the computers. Williams said, "Students will be working more and more with computers. With my Freshman Composition class I tried to ease them onto the computers."

The classes give students the opportunity to use such programs as Common Space, Microsoft Word, and even the Internet. There is also a conferencing program, which would give students the opportunity to comment on their peers' papers. This is all in a continued effort to improve the writing skills of students. According to McKay, "It is meant to help students, theoretically, by taking away blocks that would be there when talking aloud in class."

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Da Camera Society Brings Quality Music to Mount Students

By Eric Eberwein
Contributing Writer

Not many Mount students know that they can see world-class string quartets and world-renowned choirs for as little as \$5. Thanks to the Da Camera Society, you can — in concerts which not only bring you great music, but a sense of the history and architecture of Los Angeles.

We present the Chamber Music in Historic Sites® series — great musicians from the worlds of classical and jazz in places like Union Station, the Bradbury

Building and the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel. We don't believe in "concert halls." We believe that every concert is enhanced by its setting. When you hear a great choir like the Tallis Scholars sing English hymns in a church with English Gothic architecture, the music and the site combine powerfully to give you a one-of-a-kind concert experience. So we match every artist with a site that complements the music being performed.

The Da Camera Society ("da camera" is Italian for "of the court," "of the chamber")

exists to return chamber music to its roots. Centuries ago, you did not see a great quartet play Mozart or Haydn in a converted high school auditorium — these musicians played in intimate spaces that rang with history and style. We believe that every concert-goer with even a remote interest in classical music, jazz, architecture or history deserves these experiences every time out.



Eric Eberwein (Photo by Moria Demby)

As Mount students, you can get tickets to four of our 1996-97 concerts for \$5: the Tallis Scholars, November 3; "Daniel and the Lions," a medieval musical play, January 18; Alexander-Clayton-Hamilton Trio, bringing jazz to Union Station, February 9; Combattimento Consort, presenting a Baroque program at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, April 16.

Drop by our office next to the Chalon Bookstore at DH-306 and ask about our student discounts. We'll bring you a world of music for your hard-earned money.

Students Educated Through Alcohol Awareness Week

By Summer Cervantez
Staff Writer

Admired all the other drugs that Generation X has deemed as trendy, there is still the old familiar—alcohol. Popular among high school, college, and an alarmingly increasing rate of pre-teen and junior high students—approximately 69 percent have experimented with alcohol by age 13—alcohol and the issues that are associated with it invoke widespread concern. Due to this concern, during the week of October 20th through the 26th, National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week was celebrated.

National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week was founded by groups such as MADD, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, and SADD, Students Against Drunk Driving, in cooperation with numerous health and youth organizations. National Alcohol Awareness Week's goal is "to heighten knowledge about some of the dangerous effects and consequences of using or abusing alcohol," according to June Sun, ASB Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention Co-chair.

From a physiological perspective, alcohol facilitates the actions of the neurotransmitter GABA. GABA inhibits neuronal transmission, leading to a decrease in brain activity, causing perceptual distortions, decreased motor coordination, and impaired judgment. In view of the fact that women do not metabolize alcohol as efficiently

as men, and become intoxicated on less alcohol, alcohol use should have special concern for women. Alcohol consumers should be warned that the typical person metabolizes about 1 ounce of alcohol per hour, and more than that will lead to eventual intoxication.

Intoxicated users cause 50,000 deaths per year in drunk driving and drunk driving related accidents. Alcohol can lead to debilitating addictions, that in turn cause health problems such as cirrhosis of the liver. Alcohol plays a high percentage in criminal activity, including crimes like rape and theft; in addition it tends to lend itself to the shedding of social inhibitions, often leading to unflattering and embarrassing situations. "No matter where you go, if alcohol is being served, you can bet you'll see crazy drunk people making fools of themselves," commented a first year student, Veronica Small.

At the Mount, new ASB ASAP Co-chairs, Reneé Ross and June Sun planned National Alcohol Awareness Week on the Chalon campus with a few things in mind. "We are not promoting a ban on alcohol consumption," Ross stated, "The obvious fact is that college students consume alcohol. However, we want to promote education and hopefully prevent a few bad and unnecessary experiences." Sun believed the timing of the event was espe-

cially important since "the end of mid-terms, Halloween, and building stress levels, leaves people looking for a way to relax, often through use of alcohol."

Special activities occurred throughout the week, encouraging students, staff, and faculty to develop awareness. Planned events included the setup of a drunk driver cemetery in the Circle, body tracing, and the distribution of black remembrance ribbons. A 30 second moment of silence to remember victims of alcohol related accidents, and a mailbox stuffing project—heart shaped cut-outs with alcohol facts and information—were also a part of the week's activities.

For the new ASAP Co-chairs, National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week marked the beginning of plans they have for the future. Both Co-chairs, excited about their new positions, hope to address other issues, including: substance abuse, caffeine and nicotine addiction, and diet, energy, and sleeping pill addictions. "We want to welcome everyone's comments and suggestions. Just get in touch with us and let us know any other ideas that may be going around," said Sun. The ASAP Co-chairs are members of ASB's Student Activities Council.

Increase in Cars Causes Overcrowding in Student and Faculty Parking Areas

By Patricia Ibanez and
Varsana Staszak

Angelinos love to drive their own cars. Evidence of this has been especially apparent this year. As students and faculty trek up the Mount, they encounter daily the difficulty of finding a parking space. As frustration grows, is there any relief in sight.

"It is as bad as it's ever been," declared the Mount's Transportation Coordinator, Devere Claus. The parking pandemonium was reflected during the first week of classes when the fire department penalized the Mount for letting students park on the road. At the beginning of the semester, to alleviate the students' frustration a little, the security guards were lenient by letting students park anywhere as long as they did not block others or the fire lanes.

Also, an extra security guard was employed to help stu-

dents spot a parking space. According to security guard Bob Hendricks, even parking in the Circle is now more flexible. "As long as students do not impede

Monday through Thursday from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Second year student and ASB Commuter Senator, Adamma Okonkwo, says a lot of

parking permits because they do not feel the college can guarantee them a parking spot. As Okonkwo stated, "I come 45

minutes earlier to find a parking space and be in class on time, even though I come from the Bel Air area." A third year student, Jennifer Bennett said, "I have never seen it like this. It makes me angry enough to not buy a parking permit." But as Claus suggested, "Not buying a parking permit is only aggravating the problem," as students without a permit cannot be identified when they block traffic.

Some possibilities are being discussed at the moment. At one point, the opening of a parking lot in a vacant lot at the corner of Chalon and Bundy, which is the property of the Mount, was considered. This idea is no longer feasible.

Use of carpooling by the staff is highly operative at the Mount, with 40 participating faculty and staff members. Jane Iman, the Benefits Coordinator in Human Resources, stated that, "Faculty and staff members are reimbursed every time they use a shuttle, carpool, use rapid transit, walk, or bike to the Mount."

Physical Plant, along with various departments on campus, is attempting to form a parking committee to address the problems. Those who have not purchased parking permits, beware. A new format for parking tickets has been reviewed and approved. Also, they plan to begin strictly enforcing parking regulations by ticketing and towing, when necessary.



The parking structure is typically filled by 9:00 a.m. Monday morning. This often leaves students circling 45 minutes for a space, before sometimes resorting to parking illegally. (Photo by Moria)

traffic, I do not like to give them parking tickets," emphasized Hendricks. Busy times are usual-

students have approached her in regards to the parking problem. They have not purchased their

The Worldwide Problem of Hunger

By Varsana Staszak
Assistant Editor

Are you looking forward to Thanksgiving and the holiday season? While you can go home to your family and expect a warm meal in your comfortable house, there are others who are less fortunate. Maybe you have already decided to do something about this and attended the Hunger Walk on Sunday, October 27.

The Seventh Annual

5K Hunger Walk to benefit the Westside Food Bank was attended by several Mount students, as well as by residents of the Los Angeles area.

Those people who cannot grow or buy enough food to meet their basic energy needs suffer from undernutrition. People deficient of protein and other key nutrients suffer from malnutrition. Deficiencies in our diet lead to devastating health consequences. For example, each year more than 500,000 children in Less Developed Countries (LDCs) are partially or totally blinded because their diet lacks vitamin A. In tropical regions of Asia, Africa, and Latin America, iron-deficiency anemia affects about 1/10 of men, more than 1/2 of the children, 2/3 of pregnant women, and 1/2 of the other women. Anemia causes fatigue, making infection more likely.

America is not unaffected

by hunger. A study by Tufts University researchers found that in 1991 at least 20 million people (12 million children, 8 million adults) — one out of every

agricultural system produces so much food that the government pays farmers not to produce on 1/4 of U.S. cropland, or it buys up and stores unneeded crops.

How much would it cost to feed the hungry? Officials of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) estimate that between 1/2 and 2/3 of childhood deaths from nutrition-related causes could be prevented at an average annual cost of only \$5-\$10 per child, or 10-19 cents per week.

If you missed the Hunger Walk, or would like to get involved in service to help feed those in need, there are several opportunities. Every Sunday at 4 p.m.,

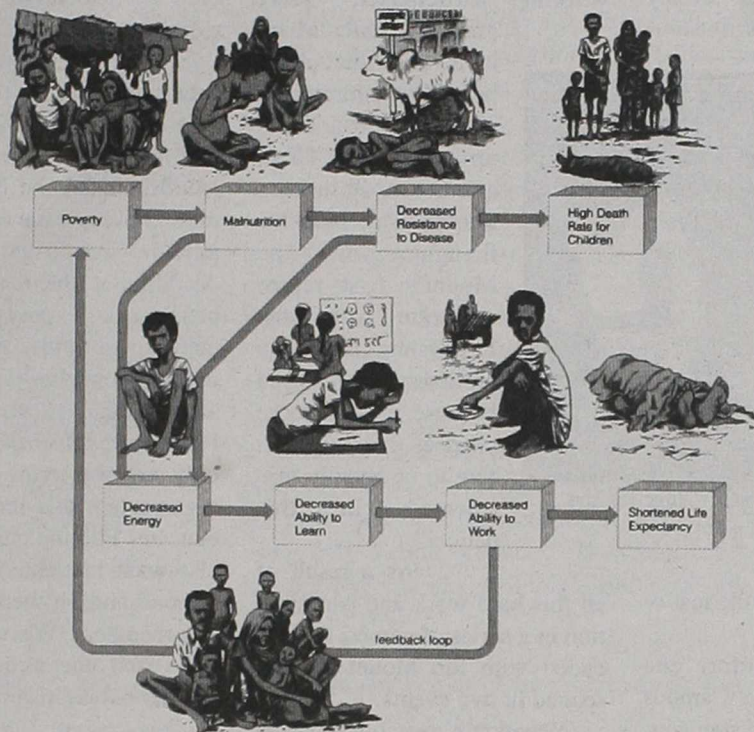
Campus Ministry conducts their Feed the Homeless program. The program is in its fifth active year. It was created by a former Mount student, Mary Blanche, who was a member of the Catholic Worker. She was involved in many social service activities with this group. According to Gail Gresser, Director of Campus Ministry, Blanche, "wanted to be the Church, not just play the Church." In other words, she wanted to take an active role in the Church's efforts to help those in need. She came up with the Feed the Homeless idea. Gresser emphasizes that the program is not just about food, but about "spending time with the homeless, listening to them, and treating them with the respect human beings deserve, but they rarely get."

Gresser thinks that the greatest reward in participating is

"encountering and realizing the depth, intelligence, spirituality, and generosity of these people. Often, they will give their food away to someone who is hungrier or disabled. They pray with the students and want to pay for the food." The homeless, who are often ignored, are appreciative of the attention and conversation. One Campus Ministry student worker said the experience is "touching and makes you feel good." She participates in

The high-income group makes up 15 percent of the world's population and enjoys a nutritious daily diet. They consume 70 percent of the world's grains, most of which comes indirectly in the form of grain-fed meat. Students in this group will enjoy a full dinner.

The middle-income group makes up 25 percent of the world's population. They are at risk of becoming low-income countries because of their coun-



What can you do personally to promote "Sustainable-Earth Agriculture?"

- Waste less food (estimated 25% of U.S. food is wasted by being thrown in the garbage.)
- Eat lower on the food chain — reduce or eliminate meat consumption to reduce environmental impact.
- Buy organic food.
- Think globally, eat locally — eat food locally grown and in season to save your money and the energy to transport food over long distances, and to support the local economy

the program because, "I know that our free time can be used wisely for God's people." Kristien Creamer, a fourth year student and Campus Ministry worker, said, "Some [homeless] people come looking for us because they know us."

Bernadette Lee, a fourth year student and Campus Ministry worker, is organizing a Hunger Banquet and Dining Hall Fast in conjunction with Food Services. Both events will be held on November 21st from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The Hunger Banquet involves a drawing which will determine which participants belong to one of three groups — high-income, middle-income, and low-income. Each group reflects each of the three basic economic groups in the world.

try's large debt. Students in this group will receive a meal of rice and beans.

The low-income group makes up roughly 60 percent of the world's population. They are frequently hungry and may receive less than the minimum number of calories a human needs just to survive. They are often landless laborers. Their country's immense debt perpetuates the hunger cycle. Students in this group will receive a meal of one bowl of rice and a glass of water.

Additionally, Mary Grogan, the Director of Food Services, will help organize a Dining Hall Fast. Students will have the option of eating a simple meal of rice and beans. A percentage of the cost of a full cafeteria meal will be used to feed the needy.

NCOD continued from page 1

they get close enough to you." The prohibition against sexual activity creates much frustration. Cox says, "By prohibiting homosexuals to engage in sexual activity, the violation of that request would be looked upon as adultery." Anne Eggebroten, Director of Women's Studies, adds, "If two homosexuals have a loving, monogamous relationship and choose to have sex, they are committing a sin. There is something flawed in that thinking."

Eggebroten is just one of the Mount faculty happy to see the addition of a homosexual and bisexual club to the Mount. Eggebroten believes the club will, "meet the need for ongoing discussion and learning."

Nevertheless, with or without Catholicism's view on homosexuality and bisexuality, people are left freely to decide for themselves what their own moral reasoning is. A third year student, who chose to remain anonymous, said, "People make such a big deal out of it. I don't go around announcing I am a heterosexual, why should people have to go around preaching and throwing posters in our face everywhere we go?" Another student, who also chose to remain anonymous, commented, "I do not believe homosexuality or bisexuality is moral or right. I believe the lifestyle is perverse and chosen that way." Cox, who has first hand experience with people who disagree with her

views, admits that there is what she calls a backlash. Cox believes that, "the backlash is balanced out with the support."

Yet another issue of controversy among students is the allowance of women as overnight guests, but not men. "Does this college believe that everyone is heterosexual in order not to address the issue of homosexuality?" asked José Jurado-Caire, a male visitor. Karin Middleton, Director of Residence Life, says, "they [Residence Life] do not believe everyone is heterosexual, but, so far there are no rules that explicitly prohibit women staying over, so there are no rules that prevent same-sex female couples from staying together." The issue of

some sort of rules being established in the future is possible, but not certain. Middleton wants to remind everyone that, "It is more difficult to know same-sex lovers are staying together, for obvious reasons. There are a lot of hypothetical situations that could occur, and those are addressed on a case by case basis."

What is paramount to the Mount campus above everything else, is education, regardless of personal points of view. Gresser wants to, "welcome and learn from and accept these students." The Cultural Co-chairs remind everyone of "the humanity we must have, especially when it comes to youth." One of the most stressed goals of the gay,

lesbian, and bisexual community is to reach teenagers who are homosexual or bisexual and may be struggling with confusion and depression. Often teenagers and young adults have a hard time accepting themselves due to a lack of information. Gay, lesbian, and bisexual youth are two to three times more likely to attempt suicide than heterosexuals, and they compromise more than 30 percent of annual youth completed suicides. Povenmure concludes, "Often adolescence is the earliest stage of coming out. In addition to normal adolescent problems of acceptance and isolation, homosexuals and bisexuals must face a fear of coming to terms with their sexuality. Suicide becomes the 'risk'."

New Pilipino Club on Campus

By Heidi D. Baldonado
Staff Writer

Pangkat Pilipino ~ FASA. What do these words mean? It looks just like another one of those foreign words and acronyms that we see posted on the walls sparking our curiosity. Translated from Tagalog, "Pangkat Pilipino" means Pilipino Organization and FASA stands for Pilipino-American Student Association. The first Pilipino organization at the Mount, it was established last spring semester by some Mount leaders. Co-founders include the following student officers: Narleen Narciso, Larissa Marquez, Christine Geluz, Rosie Tamoro, Olivia Clarin, Laura Cansicio, and Jenny Villaros. The advisor is Robert Pahilanga, the Administrative Assistant in the Student Affairs office.

According to the Constitution, two of the club's purposes are "to promote and enrich Pilipino cultural awareness" at the Mount and to encourage "interaction between different cultures." For this reason, it is not limited to just Filipinos. All are welcome to their twice a month meetings on Mondays after paying the \$5 dues at the beginning of the semester. There are currently 35 active members and 20 associates; and ten are not Pilipino. Also, Doheny has three representatives in order to unify the

Chalon and Doheny campuses.

To increase their budget, FASA held its first Pilipino Cultural Show and Dinner fundraiser, called "That's Entertainment," on Friday, July 26, 1996 at the San Antonio Ballroom at Montebello. On this night, enthusiastic watchers enjoyed various traditional Pilipino folk dances like tinikling, sayaw sa pag ibig, and pandango sa ilaw. Through this event they hoped to "promote and educate others of the Pilipino culture and share the appreciation of the Philippine heritage." Because of the dedicated and talented performers, friends, members, and family, they were able to raise money.

"In its short existence at MSMC," Pahilanga said, "FASA has already networked with SCPASA, Southern California Pilipino American Student Associations, and collaborated with Pilipino-American clubs at Pepperdine University and Los Angeles Valley College in participating in the Friendship Games at Cal-State Fullerton." Held on Saturday, October 19, 1996, the "Friendship Games"

involved non-rival competition among the Pilipino-American clubs from all over Southern California. Because this was the first time the Mount was represented at this event, the members practiced hard with Pepperdine University and L. A. Valley College students to learn a rou-



Members of FASA practice in the Campus Center for the Friendship Games. (Photo by Moria Demby)

tine they presented to the rest of the clubs.

On the week before the event, they met at the Campus Center to perfect their step routine in addition to the rest of their presentation. According to Edren Sumagaysay, who voluntarily taught the rhythmic step dance, such "a different variation of a dance is hard to teach," so

Sean Monzon from Pepperdine University commented, "He is like a drill sergeant." Nevertheless, the performers learned "to bond." During the rehearsals, when asked what she would like to say to the hard working participants, Geluz gratefully said, "Much love to all the members that participated in the cheers and put up with Ed." Then, after asking Sumagaysay about his thoughts on the Mount's first representation at the Friendship Games, he replied, "I feel proud because it gives more chances for our culture to be equally represented in this nation."

As a result of all this hard work and participation in a series of games, the day ended with the Mount placing second in two events.

Pangkat's next big event is the Induction Ball on Saturday, November 1, 1996, which costs \$26 per person or \$52 for each couple. It will be held at the Embassy Suites Brea, where FASA members and students

"Mitakuye oy
are all related

club's executive board and members.

With all these promising events and dedication, FASA is off to a great start. "I believe that FASA has an exciting future at MSMC, and I am honored that they chose me to be their first advisor," Pahilanga commented. As Pilipinos, the members do not just want to expose the Pilipino culture, but rather they want to develop something more personal together. According to President Narleen Narciso, "Not only are we trying to form an organization that influences and educates Pilipino culture, but we also want to create a strong sisterhood and brotherhood among our members. We want to look on to each other as more than just friends but as sisters and brothers."

Bad Chopstick Manners and a Japanese Recipe

By Yuki Ito
Staff Writer

In Japan we use chopsticks when we eat food. There are several manners that are considered bad. The worst manner is Hashiwatashi. Hashiwatashi is to pass food from one person to another using chopsticks. It is bad is because the act of picking up and passing food with chopsticks is similar to picking up a piece of a dead person's bone after cremation. After cremation, family members pass bones directly from chopstick to chopstick. This is reserved for the special ritual of a burial, not for the dinner manner. When we eat food with someone, it is not politeto pass food to each other.

One of the most common Japanese dishes is Nikujaga. Niku means meat and Jaga means potato in Japanese. We eat Nikujaga with sticky rice.

Ingredients (for 4 people):

Thin cuts of beef: 1/2 pound
Potatoes: 4
Onions: 1
Vegetable Oil: 1/2 tablespoon
Sugar: 1 tablespoon
Soy sauce: 2&1/2 tablespoons
Rice wine: 1 tablespoon
(or white wine): 1/2 tablespoon
Water: 1 cup

Directions:

1. Cut everything roughly.
2. Warm a pot using a medium heat, then put oil in it.
3. Put beef in the pot, and cook until the color changes to brown.
4. Put onion and potatoes in the pot, and stir regularly.
5. A few minutes later, put water in the pot, put on a lid, then change to high heat.
6. When water boils, change to low heat.
7. Add sugar, soy sauce, and rice wine (or white wine) to the pot.
8. Put the lid back on; cook until potatoes become soft.
9. Serve Nikujaga in a bowl, with sticky rice in a separate bowl.

Upcoming Events in the Los Angeles Area

By Satoe Unoki
Staff writer

On November 9, the Graduate Religious Studies Program at the Mount will offer a one-day conference entitled "Family Violence: Pastoral Responses." It will take place from 9a.m. to 3p.m. in Mount St. Mary's Donohue Center on the Doheny Campus. The registration fee is \$25. Group rates are available for groups of three or more at \$15 per person. For more information call, (213)746-0450, ext. 2135.

At the Museum of Contemporary Art, "The Power of Suggestion: Narrative and Notation in Contemporary Drawing" opens November 3 and continues through January 26, 1997. The exhibition includes drawings and photo-based works by 13 emerging artists. MOCA is open Tuesday through Sunday from 11a.m. to 5p.m. and Thursday from 11a.m. to 8p.m. Admission is \$6 for adults, \$4 for students and senior citizens. Admission is free on Thursdays from 5 to 8p.m. For more information, call (213)626-6222.

On November 4 at 8 p.m. the annual Marc Davis lecture by John Lasseter, who received an Honorary Academy Award earlier this year for *Toy Story*, will be held. The lecture will be held at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, at the Samuel Goldwyn Theater. Tickets are \$2 for the general public. All seating is on an unreserved basis. For more information, call (310)247-3000, ext. 111.

On November 24 at 1:30 p.m. "A History of Hutzpah", the most defining quality of Jewish existence, will be featured by Rabbi Edward M. Feinstein. The talk will be held at the Jewish Federation Building, 6505 Wilshire Boulevard-Board Room. For more information and reservations, call (213)852-3272.

The city of Los Angeles's HAZMOBILE Program is going to collect household hazardous waste from Los Angeles residents. The Hazmobile will be at the Unocal Refinery parking lot, located at 1660W. Anaheim Street in Wilmington, on the November 7, 8, and 9 (9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.) Call the hotline at 1-800-98-TOXIC or 1-800-988-6942.

Fairplex in Pomona will continue its fast-paced events schedule in the month of November with a full slate of events appealing to a variety of audiences:

November 8-10

COUNTRY FOLK ART SHOW & SALE

For information, contact Rhonda Blakely 810-634-4151

Admission: Fri. Adults \$6; Sat./Sun. \$5; under 10 \$2

Parking: \$4 at gate 14 on White Ave.; hotel parking \$6

November 15-17

SO. CALIF. MINERAL, FOSSIL & GEM SHOW

For information, contact Martin Zinn 303-674-2713

Admission: Adults \$5; seniors & students \$4; under 12 free

Parking: \$4 at Gate 14 on White Ave.; hotel parking \$6

November 16-17

COMPUTER MARKETPLACE

Information 800-800-5600

Admission: Adults \$8; under 10 free

Parking: \$4 at Gate 14 on White Ave.; hotel parking \$6

November 17

WEST COAST'S LARGEST ANTIQUE AUTO, CORVETTE, PORSCHE, STREET ROD AND VW CAR SHOW AND SALE

For information, contact Smoky Cross 714-832-2041

Admission: Adults \$6; under 12 free

Yasin! We
el!"
Eagle Man,
Cglala Sioux



Look behind you. See your
and daughters. They are
future. Look further, and
your sons' and daughters'
children and their children's
children even unto the Seventh
generation. That's the way we
are taught. Think about it: you
yourself are a Seventh
generation!"

- Tadodaho Leon
Shenandoah,
Native American

from *Mother Earth Spirituality*, 1990

Delicious Eats:

YABU and The Juice Club

By Satoe Unoki
Staff Writer

YABU is a local restaurant that it is known well among Japanese American people. Famous Japanese celebrities visit YABU often, so it is always crowded. YABU has typical Japanese dishes such as rice-bowls, noodles, and many kinds of a la carte dishes. Rowfish and sliced row beef are some of the customers' favorites. Main dishes are soba or udon noodle. Soba noodle is made of buckwheat flour. It is mixed with water, cut very thin, and boiled with bonito soup. The chef makes soba noodles early in the morning. This original noodle is good for your health. You will see and enjoy the chef's graceful handling of a kitchen knife over the countertop. Also you can taste various Japanese sake and beers. At lunch time, you can choose a combination of soba or udon noodles and some kind of rice bowl. It is very delicious and reasonable. I strongly recommend this combination.

Lunch M-Sat 12:00-2:45p.m.

Dinner M-Sat 6:00-10:45p.m. Sun 5:00-9:45p.m.

11820 W.Pico Blvd (310)473-9757

The Juice Club has been serving fresh smoothies since they opened on California's central coast in 1990. Fresh, big and tasty smoothies are their specialty. The calories of their smoothies are kept low by using only natural products. Their blended-to-order smoothies are just the way you like, and they blend your order to smoothness right in front of you.

Smoothies you will like:

"The Ironman/woman" Orange-strawberry-banana, one of the healthiest smoothies (\$3.95).

"Boysenberry

Blitz" A berry lover's dream, rich and fruity (\$3.50).

"Peach Pleasure" For a peach seeker (\$2.95).

Fresh carrot juice, orange juice or fresh eight vegetables juice tastes natural and rich without the sugar or any preservatives you will find in canned products (Price from \$1.55).

The closest Juice Club to the Chalon campus is 11911 San Vincente, (310)476-5823

M-F 7a.m.-10p.m. Sat. and Sun. 8a.m.-10p.m.

The Many Benefits of Yoga, an Ancient Indian Health Practice

By Varsana Staszak
Assistant Editor

Yoga is a Sanskrit word meaning "to yoke." It is to yoke, or connect, the body and the mind through the breath. Yoga originated in ancient India. It involves certain postures, called asanas, breathing exercises, and meditation. It is used for the well-being of the body, mind, and soul. Hatha Yoga is a type of yoga which deals specifically with the purification of the body, which affects the mind and soul because they are all connected.

Yoga improves and maintains aerobic abilities, flexibility, strength, endurance, balance, calm, concentration, and energy. It emphasizes acceptance of yourself and your limits and capabilities. It encourages you to work at your own level, not to compete with others and not to judge others and yourself. Most anyone can do yoga. The only materials needed are either a thick blanket or exercise mat. It is important to wear loose, comfortable clothing. Incense and soothing music can be used to create a conducive environment. Yoga is best performed in the morning on an empty stomach, or at least two hours after eating. The next best time to perform yoga is at dusk.

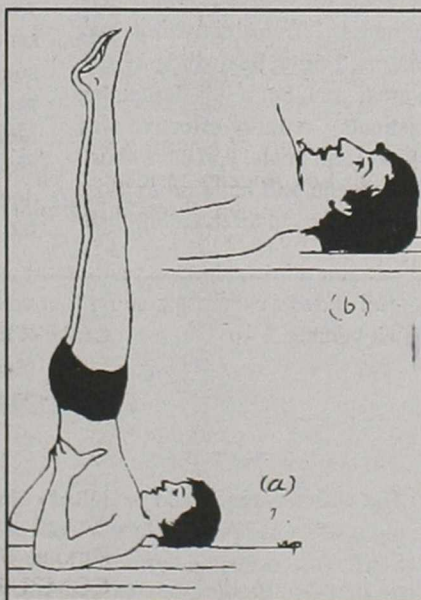
Breathing is essential to life. Yoga focuses on the breath. Ironically, most people do not know the proper way to breathe. When inhaling, the stomach should extend outward. When exhaling, the stomach should be squeezed inward. The exhalation is about twice as long as the inhalation. One should breathe through the nose.

Two important postures, or asanas, in yoga are called sarvangasana ("shoulder stand") and matsyasana ("fish pose"). These postures have many benefits and are always performed together.

Sarvangasana is an inverted pose because one stands on the shoulders with the support of the elbows while the legs are stretched upward. All parts of the body are engaged when it is performed. There is light pressure put on the thyroid gland in the neck. It is helpful to concentrate on the neck area while in the pose. One can remain in the pose for as little as 10 seconds or one minute to 10 minutes or 30 minutes. It depends on one's level.

The foremost benefit of sarvangasana is that the thyroid

gland, which plays a prominent part in metabolism, growth, nutrition, and structure, is properly nourished. A healthy thyroid means healthy functioning of the circulatory, respiratory, alimentary, genito-urinary, and nervous systems of the body. If the thyroid is diseased, all other glands of the body suffer.



Sarvangasana, or the Shoulder stand, is an extremely beneficial yoga posture.

The shoulder stand also allows for a rich supply of blood to the face, neck, and brain. The blood nourishes the spinal col-

Social Introductions and Personalities in Japan:

What is your blood type?

By Yuki Ito
Staff Writer



Yuki Ito (Photo by Moria Demby)

"What's your blood type?" This is a very commonly asked question in Japan. Because we have a stereotype for each blood type, we feel we can guess the characteristics of people from their blood types.

The stereotype of type "O" blood: They are emotionally stable. However, when trouble occurs, they suddenly give way to their feelings, and they cannot control themselves. They like to make friends, but they are sometimes mean to others, except their relatives. When you ask a favor of them, it is important to develop trust. Once you gain their trust, they will listen to your trouble and accept your request with parental affection. You can ask a favor of them by letters, for they like letters.

The stereotype of type "A" blood: They are usually very worried about everything. However, when they meet a great trouble and become unable to control their emotions, they take a defiant attitude and become calm. The harder they try at something, the more they feel satisfaction from it. They are very careful about other's trustworthiness, so you must try hard to gain their trust. When you ask a favor of them, it is not enough to ask over the phone.

The stereotype of type "B" blood: They are moody and emotionally unstable. Their emotional instability does not change unless there is a very great trouble. Although they have the ability to act quickly, if it becomes difficult, they cannot handle it. When you ask a favor of them, you must ask them slowly. Because they like talking with people on the phone, you can ask them over the phone.

The stereotype of type "AB" blood: They seem to be calm, but actually they are shaken and worried about everything. They are very rational, so they are a little cold-hearted. When you ask a favor of them, you need to explain the reason rather than ask them emotionally. They like a restaurant with a good atmosphere, so you can ask them there.

If you do not know your blood type, you can find it out by blood donation. On Tuesday, November 12, 10:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. in the Lecture Hall, ASB Service Co-chairs are sponsoring a blood drive. Your donation will save someone's life. Donate and help them! For more information about the blood drive, please call Sharain Khalil at 472-4024.

umn, keeping the spine elastic and youthful. The pose is a blood tonic and purifier. It also preserves and improves youthfulness in the face and body. For example, it prevents varicose veins, wrinkles, and gray hair.

In addition, sarvangasana cures constipation, digestive problems, female disorders, and bladder problems. It prevents ossification, or premature hardening, of the bones. In general, sarvangasana energizes, invigorates, and gives vitality to the body and mind. Another plus for students and teachers is that the shoulder stand is a good tonic for overworked brains.

The shoulder stand is always followed by matsyasana, or fish pose. The fish pose relieves any soreness in the back of the neck and intensifies the usefulness of sarvangasana. It is known as an opposite or balancing pose — while the shoulder stand exerts pressure on the thyroid, the fish pose stretches the area. The arms are placed under the body as one lies down on one's back.

Pushing up on the elbows, the crown of the head will rest on the floor. Most of the support will come from the elbows and arms.

Matsyasana is known as a destroyer of many diseases. For example, it removes constipation, which is a major cause of many diseases. Because the wind-box and trachea of the throat are opened widely, deep breathing is encouraged. Also, the lungs receive pure air and a sufficient supply of oxygen. The cervical and upper dorsal nerves are nourished with blood and toned properly. The endocrine glands in the brain are stimulated. The act of stretching the trunk, waist, and neck strengthens them and removes excess fat from these areas.

There are many poses and variations, as well as breathing exercises and meditation. For every ailment of the body or mind, there is a yoga pose which can help, or cure it completely. Yoga keeps people youthful and healthy. Those who practice yoga regularly are energized and peaceful. Benefits of yoga spread to all areas of one's life.

Ask Athena: Help with Time Management and Relationships

By Athena

Goddess of War and Wisdom and the Mount mascot

I would like to inform you that a typing mistake was made in my advice column in the last issue. For the question, "Why are men afraid to show their emotions?" the last sentence of the answer read, "We just need to be happy with men." This is in fact not true. I actually said, "We just need to be patient with men." By no means are women required to be happy with men. Whether mortal or immortal, we all have our problems. Patience can help us deal with them.



Q: How can I manage my time?

A: You can prioritize your time between activities you must do, you can do, and you do not have to do—Requirements, Extras, and Nonessentials. Make a schedule of the week. First, fill in your requirements like classes and work. Next, fill in activities like clubs, volunteering, tutoring, etc. Leave enough time for studying, eating, and hygiene. Always allow for at least 20 minutes of relaxation per day. Though life is full of unexpected events, try to adhere to your schedule. To take note of tests, homework, due dates for papers, and other appointments, an organizer with a calendar is very helpful. If you discover that you do not have time for all of your Requirements, then consider giving up some Extras.

Imagine that you are Theseus, who conquered the Minotaur in the labyrinth. The Minotaur can symbolize all your responsibilities and engagements. The labyrinth is like time; you must maneuver through it. Theseus had a magic sword and a ball of string. These can be your organizational skills, persistence, and punctuality—all the tools for success.

Some words to live by from that great mortal Thomas Jefferson, "Never put off till tomorrow what you can do today." Also, remember that women seem to have the miraculous skill of doing many things at the same time. Do not worry (because this wastes a lot of time). You will get through it!

Q: How much should I be willing to change to make a relationship work?

A: Only to the point when your inner voice starts to say, "Hello! What do you think you're doing?" Never be unfaithful to yourself, your values, and your dreams. Surely, there is some compromise involved in every relationship. But you can not compromise who you are. People who really care about you would not want you to change who you are; they would only want the best for you. The best relationships are those in which you can be yourself, while growing into your potential. In other words, try not to be like the wood nymph, Echo. The only words she could pronounce were those that had just been said by somebody else! She loved and yearned for Narcissus. Unfortunately, he never realized her devotion and never said, "I love you." She pined away until she became nothing but a voice, and Narcissus never thought of her again. Remember—be yourself and don't give more than you're getting.

The Fitness Way

By Jean Day

Contributing Writer

During this time of the year students often find it difficult to get motivated to workout. With their busy schedules, leisure time is a luxury. Most of the time exercising gets pushed down to the bottom of the priority list. So, here are a few helpful hints to help you get on track for the holidays.

One of the best ways to ensure that you put in your workout time is to find a workout buddy. Now, this person should not be just anybody. Find a friend who is reliable and will not flake out on you at the last minute. A workout buddy can really be a lot of fun. The two of you can set goals together and also help cheer each other on. It serves as a great incentive just knowing someone else is expecting you to workout at a certain time. Try looking at some of the people you know who might be good candidates. You might also want to try checking out the people who already consistently work out.

Another great motivational tool is keeping a log for yourself. You can make a huge chart for your wall. Each day that you stick with your program, you can give yourself a star. This will help you to monitor yourself and teach discipline. Also, if you find that one particular week, you had many stars, you can reward yourself. Go out and buy a new outfit or go have that piece of pizza you have been craving all week. Fortunately, keeping a chart will also help you keep track of how many days you did not do very well. This will help you to make modifications in your schedule and get yourself back on track.

The last and probably the most important motivator is to set short term goals for yourself. Many people often make the mistake of setting long term goals that are difficult to adhere to. Their motivation may be gone half way through the journey. As one of the Train Smart coordinators, I often hear students say, "By the end of the semester, I want to have lost 15 pounds." Well, this is a great goal, but if it is September and you think you have until December you might be inclined to procrastinate. A more effective way might be to say, "In two weeks, I hope to have lost 2 pounds." By setting short term goals, you have shorter time constraints and therefore will be less inclined to procrastinate. You should still hang on to those long term goals because they can help you see the big picture! You might be surprised after accomplishing all of your short term goals, it is December and the 15 lbs. are gone!

Eat Smart: Choice and Commitment

By the Eat Smart Fairy
Contributing Writer

Is there life after the Mount's food service line? Is it in the realm of human capacity to walk through the battlefield unscathed, with only a tray as your shield? By this point in the semester, you might be waging a losing war—midterms hit hard, and you just did not have the stamina to withstand another assault of the irresistible charms of pasta in creamy white sauce with chunks of celery thrown in for good measure. Hey, it was that or steak, medium-rubber. And the Battle of the Bulge is getting out of hand. Thank goodness the weather's growing cold: it will be easier to cover up in baggy clothes.

But wait! You don't have to fall under the slavery of the King of Hopeless Fat Accumulation! You might not realize it, but you *do* have weapons at your disposal. They sit right between your ears, nestled in an obscure fold of the brain. They are called CHOICE and COMMITMENT. Oh, yes, those big "C" words again. Absolutely. Actually, it works rather simply: every time you walk up to the front lines, repeat your mantra: I have a CHOICE. Sound silly? And yet it is so easy to go on auto-pilot and realize, half-an-hour later, that, really, you did not have to eat that THING that's turning into solid brick around your midriff right now. So before you pick up that tray, remind yourself that you, not the greedy monster that lives inside your mouth, have a CHOICE. Now, what is this choice I am talking about? It is the choice of what you eat and how much you eat.

This is a fine science of discrimination worth its own name. I happen to like the name "scansion," probably because I'm an English major, and because the term refers to scanning. And scan you must when making a discriminating choice. Basically, you are scanning for fat and unnecessary calories. Those are hidden in creamy white sauces, creamy brown sauces, creamy fillings, creamy soups, creamy potatoes... you get the point. If it is creamy, look twice. The yummy, silky creaminess sliding effortlessly down your throat is undoubtedly fat. What else could make itself

so effortless, so alluring? Anything with hefty amounts of cheese (Ha! You knew I would nail the pizza!) is also fat land. Most cheeses are about 70 percent fat. You might as well be nibbling a lard brick—only, it is disguised. Hitting the salad bar when all else fails is a good idea, but even there you are not safe from guerrilla tactics. CHOICE: are you going to smother the tasteless greenery with blue cheese dressing, or will you opt for Italian (dare I suggest squeezed lemon juice?)? If you give up at the last minute and choose the blue cheese, you might have been better off with the bowtie pasta up front. And finally: most of you have noticed the new and expanded battlefield at the end of the road: the ever prolific dessert table. All I have to say is, out of sight, out of mind. Turn your back and do not look.

In regards to amounts, this is a little trickier, since every person has individual volume needs to feel fulfilled by a culinary session. There are, however, some helpful visual exercises to guide you along. For one thing, consider that the average stomach is about the size of a fist. This is true. However, due to its phenomenal elasticity, it can contain far more than a fistful. Furthermore, it tends to be very cooperative with your repeated demands for accommodating large loads, and will stop shrinking between meals. Before you dig into a plateful of food, ball your hand up into a fist (or imagine it) and ask yourself, should I stuff all this into that?

I will not elaborate the virtues of COMMITMENT; that is been the domain of professional psychologists for years. Suffice it to say, your commitment to the labor of choice needs to be as unwavering as what you would expect from your boyfriend, in order to foster a trusting relationship between your mind and your body. And it is just as exacting. Sometimes it can be soooo tiresome! Soooo blah! Soooo unexciting! What a drag. But consider what glory you will emerge to when you wriggle out of your bulky clothing next spring, and you won't shriek in hopeless desperation.

Statistics for Class of 2000

Enrollment	Ethnic Distribution
107 New (first-time college goers)	45 Asian or Pacific Islander
Full-time Students	28 Latina
Gender	27 White
106 Female	5 African-American
1 Male	1 Native American
Area of Permanent Residence	1 Unstated
2 Guam	Religious Affiliation
4 Hawaii	77 Catholic
1 Illinois, 1 Minnesota, 1 Montana,	8 Protestant
1 New Jersey,	8 Not stated
1 Oregon, 1 Washington	8 Other
	3 Eastern
	3 None

The Oracle of Mount St. Mary's College

The opinions expressed in signed columns and letters are the author's not necessarily the views of the staff or Mount St. Mary's College. Unsigned columns do reflect the shared views of *The Oracle* Staff. All correspondence to *The Oracle* should be addressed to: *The Oracle*, Box 52, 12001 Chalon Road, Los Angeles, CA 90049. Sorry, but we do not print unsigned letters.

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PROP 204: SAFE, CLEAN, RELIABLE WATER SUPPLY ACT

Bond Act, Put on the Ballot by the Legislature

Summary: This act provides for a bond issue of nine hundred ninety - five million dollars (\$995,000,000) to provide funds to ensure safe drinking water, increase water supplies, clean up pollution in rivers, streams, lakes, bays, and coastal areas, protect life and property from flooding, and protect fish and wildlife and make changes in the Water Conservation and Water Quality Bond Law of 1986 and the Clean Water and Water Reclamation Bond Law of 1988 to further these goals. Fiscal Impact: General Fund cost of up to \$1.8 billion to pay off both the principal (\$995 million) and interest (\$776 million). The average payment for principal and interest over 25 years would be up to \$71 million per year.

PROP 205: YOUTHFUL AND ADULT OFFENDER LOCAL FACILITIES BOND ACT OF 1996

Bond Act, Put on the Ballot by the Legislature

Summary: This act provides for a bond issue of seven hundred million dollars (\$700,000,000) to provide funds for the construction, renovation, remodeling, and replacement of local juvenile and adult correctional facilities. Fiscal Impact: General Fund costs of \$1.25 billion to repay principal and interest, with annual payments averaging \$50 million for 25 years. Unknown costs, potentially millions of dollars annually, to counties to operate new facilities.

PROP 206: VETERAN'S BOND ACT OF 1996

Put on the Ballot by the Legislature

Summary: This act provides for a bond issue of four hundred million dollars (\$400,000,000) to provide farm and home aid for California veterans. Fiscal Impact: General Fund cost of about \$700 million to pay off both the principal (\$400 million) and interest (about \$300 million) on the bonds, with an average annual payment for 25 years of about \$28 million to retire this debt; costs offset by payments for participating veterans. can apply if they have good credit.

PROP 207: ATTORNEYS' FEES, RIGHT TO NEGOTIATE, FRIVOLOUS LAWSUITS

Put on the Ballot by Petition Signatures

Summary: Except as allowed by laws in effect on January 1, 1995, prohibits restrictions on the right to negotiate amount of attorneys' fees. Prohibits attorneys from charging excessive fees. Authorizes court to impose sanctions for filing frivolous lawsuit or pleading. Fiscal Impact: Unknown, but probably not significant, net fiscal impact on state and local governments.

PROP 208: CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS AND SPENDING LIMITS. RESTRICTS LOBBYISTS

Put on the Ballot by Petition Signatures

Summary: Limits campaign contributions to \$550 statewide elections, \$250 large districts, \$100 smaller districts. Incentives for voluntary spending limits. Prohibits lobbyist contributions. Fiscal Impact: Costs of up to \$4 million annually to state and local governments for implementation and enforcement; unknown, but probably not significant, state and local election costs.

PROP 209: PROHIBITION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION OR PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT BY STATE AND OTHER PUBLIC ENTITIES

Put on the Ballot by Petition Signatures

Summary: Generally prohibits discrimination or preferential treatment based on race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in public employment, education, and contracting. Fiscal Impact: Could affect state and local programs that currently cost well in excess of \$125 million annually. Actual saving would depend on various factors (such as future court decisions and implementation actions by government entities).

PROP 210: MINIMUM WAGE

INCREASE

Put on the Ballot by Petition Signatures

Summary: Increases the state minimum wage for all industries to \$5.00 per hour on March 1, 1997, and to \$5.75 per hour on March 1, 1998. Fiscal Impact: Unknown impact on government revenues. Annual wage-related costs to state and local governments of \$120 million to \$300 million (depending on federal actions), partly offset by net savings, in the low tens of millions, in health and welfare programs.

Your Guide to the California Propositions

PROP 211: ATTORNEY-CLIENT FEE ARRANGEMENT. SECURITIES FRAUD LAWSUITS

Put on the Ballot by Petition Signatures

Summary: Prohibits restrictions on attorney-client fee arrangements, except as allowed by laws existing on January 1, 1995. Prohibits deceptive conduct by any person in securities transactions resulting in loss to retirement funds, savings. Imposes civil liability, punitive damages. Fiscal Impact: Probably minor net fiscal impact on state and local governments.

PROP 212: CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS AND SPENDING LIMITS. REPEALS GIFT AND HONORARIA LIMITS. RESTRICTS LOBBYISTS

Put on the Ballot by Petition Signatures

Summary: Repeals gift/honoraria limits. Limits contribution to \$200 in state and \$100 in other campaigns. Imposes spending

limits. Prohibits lobbyists contributions. Fiscal Impact: Cost of up to \$4 million annually to state and local governments for implementation and enforcement; unknown, but probably not significant, state and local election costs. Increases state revenues about \$6 million by eliminating tax deduction for lobbying.

PROP 213: LIMITATION ON RECOVERY TO FELONS, UNINSURED MOTORISTS, DRUNK DRIVERS

Put on the Ballot by Petition Signatures

Summary: Denies recovery of all damages to convicted felons for crime-related injury. Denies recovery of noneconomic damages (e.g., pain, suffering) to drunk drivers, if convicted, and most uninsured motorists. Fiscal Impact: Probably minor net fiscal impact on state and local government.

PROP 214: HEALTH CARE, CONSUMER PROTECTION

Put on the ballot by petition signatures.

Summary: Regulates health care businesses, Prohibits discouraging health care professionals from informing patients or advocating treatment. Requires health care businesses to establish criteria for payment and facility staffing. Fiscal Impact: Increased state and local government costs for existing health programs and benefits, probably in the tens to hundred of millions of dollars annual

PROP 215: MEDICAL USE OF MARIJUANA

Put on the ballot by petition signatures.

Summary: Exempts from criminal laws patients and defined caregivers who possess or cultivate marijuana for medical treatment recommended by a physician. Provide physicians who recommend use shall not be punished. Fiscal Impact: Probably no significant fiscal impact on state and local governments.

PROP 216: HEALTH

CARE CONSUMER PROTECTION TAXES ON CORPORATE RESTRUCTURING.

Put on the Ballot by Petition Signatures.

Summary: Regulates health and businesses. Prohibits discouraging health professionals from informing patients. Prohibits conditioning coverage on arbitration agreement. Establishes non profit consumer advocate. Imposes taxes on corporate restructuring. Fiscal impact: New tax revenues, potentially hundreds of millions of dollars annually, to fund specified health care. Additional state and local government costs for existing health programs and benefits, probably ten to hundreds of millions of dollars annually.

PROP 217: TOP INCOME TAX BRACKETS, REINSTATEMENT REVENUES TO LOCAL AGENCIES.

Put on the Ballot by Petition Signatures.

Summary: Retroactively reinstates highest tax rates on taxpayers with taxable income over \$115, 000 and \$230,000 (current estimates) and joint taxpayers with taxable incomes over \$230,000 and \$460,000 (current estimates). Allocates revenues from those rates to local agencies. Fiscal Impact: Annual increase in state personal income tax revenues of about \$700 million, with about half the revenues allocated to schools and half to other local governments.

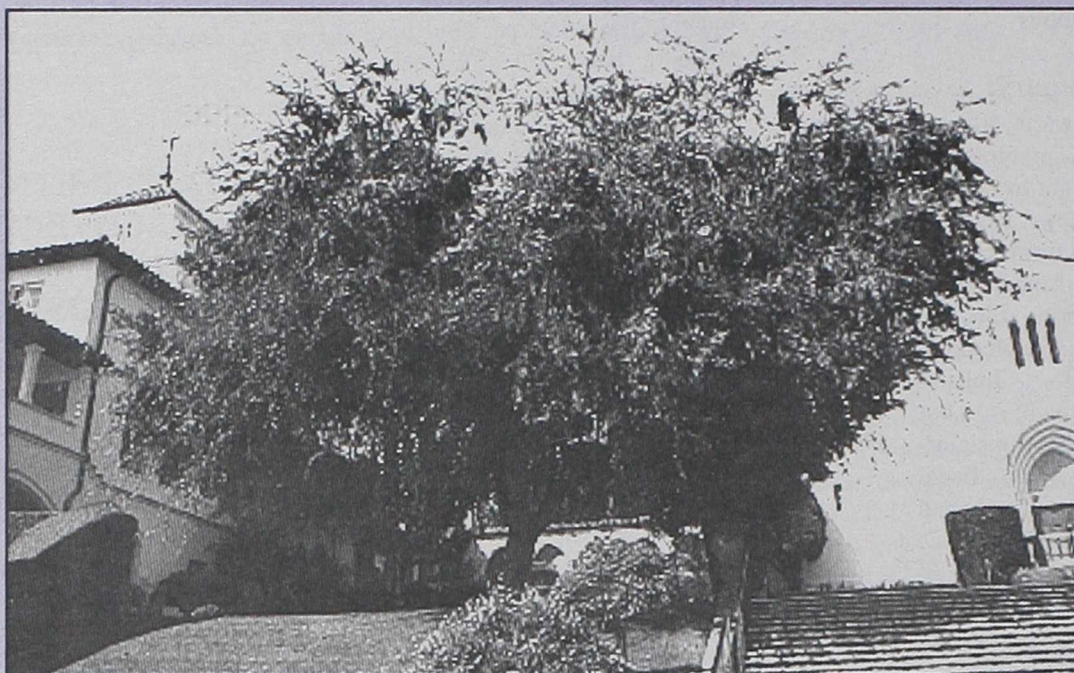
PROP 218: VOTER APPROVAL FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT TAXES. LIMITATIONS ON FEES, ASSESSMENT, AND CHARGES.

Put on the Ballot by Petition Signatures.

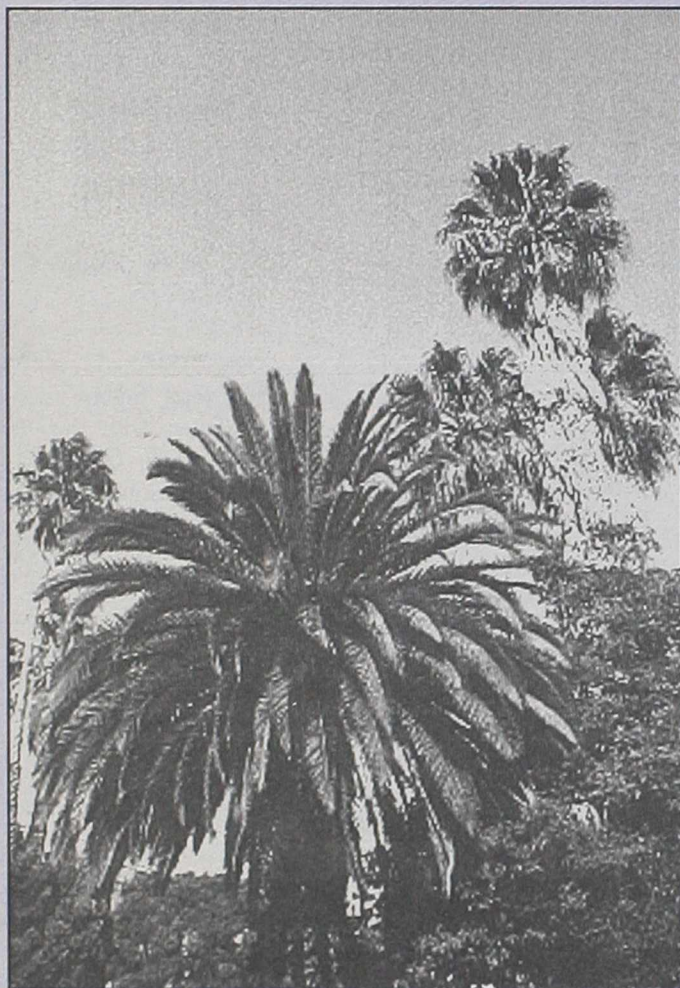
Summary: Requires a majority of voters to approve increases in general taxes. Requires property-related assessments, fees, charges be submitted to property owners for approval. Fiscal Impact: Short-term local government revenue losses of more than \$100 million annually. Long-term local government revenue losses of potentially hundreds of millions of dollars annually. Comparable reductions in spending for local public services.

Autumn in L.A.

Los Angeles is known for many things: Disneyland, Hollywood, the celebrities, the beaches, and, of course, the weather. Beautiful, sunny LA is not known, however, for its changing of the seasons. In fact, there does not seem to much of a season change here at all.

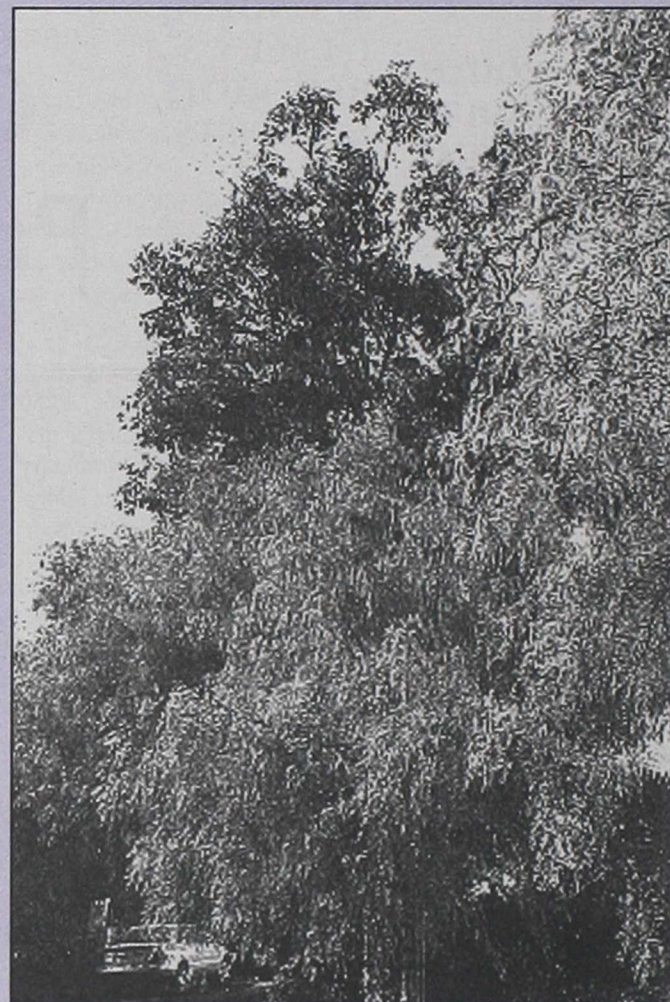


Instead, LA experiences "weather" which at its worst means wind and rain. Pictured on the left is the Chalon campus on a day where the sky is clear, the air is warm, and the trees are still. This tree will retain its leaves this fall, offering shade all year long.



California has a vast variety of trees, probably the most famous being palm trees. A symbol of the warm weather and beaches found in LA, they remain so year-round, losing their fronds only in high winds.

There are many trees in L.A. whose leaves do change colors and eventually fall to the ground. Though it can be a mess, it is a beautiful mess.



With fall, comes fire season in Southern California. Half a dozen or more fires have already broken out, all aided by the high Santa Ana winds. This smoggy and smoky LA, pictured here, was created by the recent fire in Malibu. This fire



burned thousands of acres of brush, taking with it five or six homes. Although this uncontrolled brush fire was not good for the homes it destroyed, it was a drastic difference from the 70 or 80 homes the Carlsbad fire consumed, in mid October.

The Oracle

of Mount St. Mary's College

December 1996

Volume 2 Number 3

Chalon and Doheny Enter the Computer Age

By Summer Cervantez
Staff Writer

You've heard the noise. You've seen the wires. What is going on? In October the groundwork began for a total reconstruction project on the Mount's telephone, cabling, data port and communication systems. When students, staff, and faculty arrive at the Mount campuses next fall, they should be prepared to walk into a whole new world—a world of limitless communication and learning opportunities.

According to Larry Smith, Assistant Vice President of Information Support Services, who is in charge of the project both at Chalon and Doheny, "infrastructure for the 21st century...a state of the art structure across all disciplines" is being implemented. The cabling that is being laid down now, throughout every building on both campuses, is the first step of the project. The cabling installation, which is expected to be finished by January, is going to create a new,

improved telephone system. The telephone system, called PBX, will be placed throughout all offices, buildings and residence halls. By the fall of 1997, student telephones will be equipped with voice mail and inter-campus extension dialing. Telephone services will be run through the Mount, not GTE.

Along with the installation of the phone system, data ports should be installed by January. The installation of the data ports means modem access and a system of campus wide internet and e-mail capabilities.

Another welcome bonus will be cable T.V. wiring in the residence halls, operational in the spring of 1997.

The potential applications of this technology are limitless.

Smith hopes to see "the creation of a closer community between both campuses, albeit an electronic community." Since e-mail access will allow for direct, fast communication, getting in touch

sible in ways that have never been possible before," said Catherine Bejerana, a fourth year student.

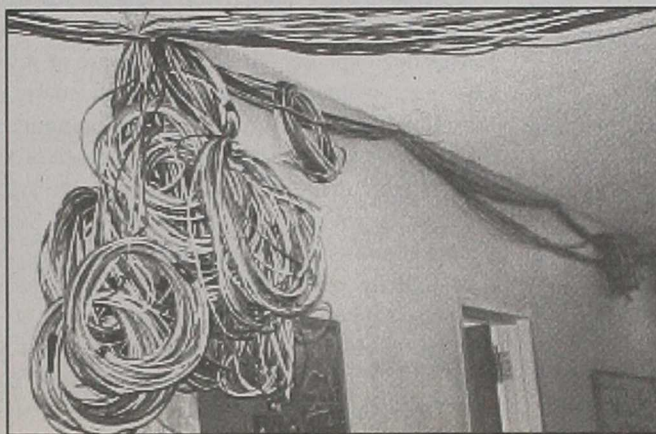
The cost of the project is estimated to be between 1 and 1.5 million dollars. The expense is great but Smith believes that, "the only downfall of the project is if we don't do it." The project has been in the minds of the Mount community for several years, and Smith believes that, "although the Mount isn't behind in technological advances, if we were to wait even two years to implement this project, we would be."

Cynthia Guerrero, a third year student, asks, "By how much is this going to hike up

tuition rates?" The project, because it is so extensive, is likely to affect tuition rates. Although finance may be foremost in the minds of some people, others, like Cristina Cox, a first year student, believe that, "even if it does raise tuition, it is a valuable thing to do."

Johnson Controls, Bay Networks, and Mitel, all of the companies involved in the project, are highly experienced in what they do and highly experienced in working with colleges. At the Doheny campus, the inconvenience is more extensive than it is at Chalon. The conduits that would enable the installation of data ports must be placed underground. Therefore, there are many trenches on the Doheny campus. On the Chalon campus, the conduits are already there.

The future of the Mount, in terms of technology and full blown access to the "Information Superhighway," is wide open to possibilities.



The wiring installed for data ports and telephones in the Humanities Building at Chalon. (Photo by Moria Demby)

with a professor, friend or staff member on either campus will be as easy as finding the nearest computer. "The convenience of e-mail and Internet access makes the campus workable and acces-

Neighborhood Concerns Over Traffic to Chalon Causes Formation of a New Committee

By Reina Garcia
Staff Writer

Why has the Mount asked that we drive up Norman Place and down Bundy Drive? In the early 1990's, a few surrounding neighbors began to voice their concerns through letters and phone calls about the Chalon campus' traffic volume. In 1992, the addition of Weekend College created an increase in traffic. "This was the straw that broke the camel's back," said Jill Perry, Director of Public Relations.

In August 1995, the Brentwood Homeowners' Association sent a letter to Los Angeles City Councilman Marvin Braude requesting a public hearing to discuss the revocation of the Mount's conditional use permit. The conditional use permit is a city-issued document that allows the Mount to use its property as long as it meets certain conditions.

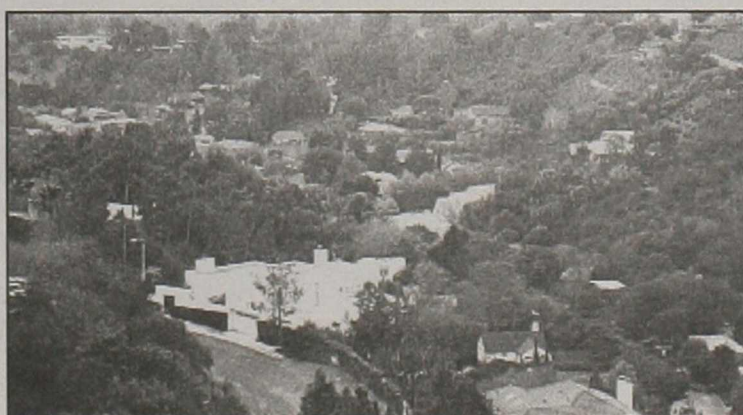
In the letter to Braude, the neighbors showed that they were under the incorrect impression that the entire college population attended classes on the Chalon campus. The letter claimed that

the school is not permitted to rent its facilities to outside groups, and charged that the Mount and Carondelet Center share parking.

A response from the college clarified that the student body is split between the Chalon and Doheny campuses, and that the college limits facility rentals to groups with an educational purpose, and that the Carondelet Center does not share parking with the college. Principal City Planner Bob Rogers determined in January 1996 that there was "insufficient evidence to support the initiation of a revocation action." The neighbors sent another letter to Braude in June 1996, stating that their concerns were not fully addressed by Rogers. They

asked for a hearing on behalf of surrounding neighbors.

The "Town and Gown" Committee was formed to address the concerns of the neighbors. "Town and Gown" is the traditional name of committees of this nature that are formed in college towns to find cooperative solutions to problems. The 10 member committee consists



The Brentwood neighborhood as seen from the Mount. Chalon Road is seen in the center bottom. (Photo by Moria Demby).

of three members of the Brentwood Homeowners' Association, two neighbors at

large, three college representatives, a representative from the Carondelet Center, and a representative of the office of Councilman Braude.

The committee has met twice. The first meeting provided a chance for members to introduce themselves. The second meeting was focused on establishing issues to be addressed at future meetings and discussing the Mount's plans for the future. "With this committee we are all able to clarify misunderstandings that have arisen over the years, listen to one another and agree on solutions that are acceptable to everyone," said Perry. Perry is also a member representing the Mount on the

committee. "The 'Town and Gown' Committee is important because the college and the surrounding neighbors need to coexist, and when there is friction between the two, this committee is the best way to help work together to resolve the conflict," said Hall Marston, who lives off of Bundy Drive, is a member of the committee.

Marston is very hopeful that the committee will be able to resolve the issues at hand and most importantly be able to address any further issues between the two parties. "It's in the college's best interest to have this resolved so everyone can move on," says Marston. He feels the Brentwood Homeowners' Association has a legitimate grievance with the college but believes the traffic problem is blown out of proportion. Marston himself is not as offended as other neighbors. He cautions that the Brentwood Homeowners' Association is politically powerful and should not be taken lightly.

Sister Karen Kennelly: Becoming a President

By Heidi D. Baldonado
Staff Writer

What qualities does a president of Mount St. Mary's College need to possess? How does one become the president? Many ask such questions but don't really receive answers that satisfy their curiosity. An interview with Sister Karen Kennelly, the current president of the Mount, answers the above questions and will hopefully satisfy the curious.

The Board of Trustees, the group of people to whom the president reports to, conducts

the search for a qualified president. The ideal president would be a Sister of St. Joseph and possess a doctorate degree. She must possess certain qualities: an understanding of the mission

of the college, which is reflected in her work, strong leadership skills, and the ability to fundraise and to obtain resources. The most important of these are the latter two, and many times the applicant with these qualities is selected. "If a president isn't resourceful, the college will fall, and there won't be a college to run afterwards," Kennelly commented.

Once the Board of Trustees has chosen a qualified president, they recommend her to the Provincial Council. Such a specialized committee from the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet (SSJC) selects the president. The SSJC, the founders of the Mount, oversee the achievements and actions of the president. To do this, every year the president writes her mission, philosophy, and significant achievements in a Province Annual Report. Such subjects are then discussed as the provincial committee meets with the president, major administrators of the college, and other important members of the college community.

As the president of the Mount since 1989, Kennelly wrote her seventh Province Annual Report in January 1996. According to the report, some of her achievements include the completion of the Coe Library renovation project, distinctive programs such as the Leadership Program and the Urban Engagement and Civil Responsibility program, and her commitment to educational equity for Hispanics. Also, Kennelly has made possible the initial construction of the Sister Magdalen Coughlin Learning Complex which officially began on October 13, 1996, The Groundbreaking Ceremony.

According to her general

purpose biography, Kennelly says, "It's an exciting moment to be in leadership at Mount St. Mary's. So much of what we do in bringing a multicultural student body together in the common task of education anticipates the future of American higher education."

Kennelly is an alumna of the College of St. Catherine, St. Paul, Minnesota, one of the Mount's sister colleges. She received her master's degree in history from The Catholic University of America and

doctorate in history from the University of California, Berkeley. After receiving the Fulbright Scholarship, and American Council for Learned Societies Fellowship, she was able to do her post-doctoral research in Spain.

Before coming to the Mount, along with her extended education, Kennelly held other positions that qualified her for the presidency. One of her administrative jobs was as the Associate Academic Dean and then the Academic Dean at the College of St. Catherine. Later, she held the position of Executive Director at the National Federation of Carondelet Colleges and then became the Province Director of the St. Paul Province of the SSJC. After her residency at the Institute for Ecumenical and Cultural Research in Collegeville, Minnesota, she was selected to be the president of the Mount.

In addition to her busy schedule as the president, she goes on numerous trips attending professional meetings and conferences. One of the conferences she attended was a triennial conference of the History of Women Religious when she was presented with the Distinguished Historian Award in June 1995. Also, she has written publications such as "Religious Institutes and Their History" for the Leadership Conference of Women Religious, National Association of Treasures of Religious Institutes, and the Tri-Conference on Retirement.

When asked what she would like to say to the student body, Kennelly said, "I have never seen more students active in a political campaign." She said she sensed a lot of enthusiasm among the students at Horizon's Day and after the successful victory of a high proportion of registered voters at the Mount. She also added, "Make values your own or you can't be a person of integrity."



Sister Karen Kennelly
(Photo by Moria Demby)

The Voices from Women's Studies

Regina Lark
Contributing Writer

"Before entering into a women's studies class, many thoughts ran through my head," explains Maribelle Ordorica, a first year student. Ordorica continues, "Is this going to be anti-men? Do I belong?" Last week I asked the women enrolled in this semester's Women Studies 100 to write about their classroom experiences thus far. Much of the feedback that I was received was similar to Maribelle's. Alessandra Brophy writes that she thought the class would be "one-sided with little room for opinions." Mitzi Angeles "dreaded coming into a classroom filled with violent women who would disagree with my old-fashioned thinking." Still others enrolled because they were excited at the prospect of learning about the ways in which women shape culture and society. And, as Clarissa Beserra explains, "My mom really urged me to take the class because she wants me to become a strong woman."

Those of us who enroll in a women's studies class take a giant leap of faith. Somewhere in the back of our minds we know that our ideas and beliefs—the traditions we have all grown up with—will be challenged. We have also heard stories about "man-hating feminists" with unshaven legs and hairy armpits. That alone, I think, would draw only the most courageous to a class such as this! I mean, if that is "feminism" why would anybody want to sign up? Still, the 17 students in this semester's WST100 have, at mid-term, come to some very different conclusions.

We have come to understand that the term "feminism" is not a bad one. Instead, it is a term that reflects our belief in women's social, political, and economic equality. Within this framework we discuss topics that challenge our most fundamental notions about ourselves and our lives. Do women share a universal experience? Can a woman be a feminist AND stay home to take care of her family? Why do we continue to "give away the bride" from one man to another when we marry? How does our sexuality conform to societal standards? What does it mean to be bisexual or lesbian? These are hard questions to consider because we are raised not to question the status quo.

Our initial fears and hesitations give way to exploring new ideas about our experiences and how we meet the challenges before us. After several weeks of study we discover the variety of ways in which women face their daily lives. Our cultural diversity brings us to the foreground of a wide array of opinions and long-held beliefs. We find that we can hold onto these ideas that are important to us and, as Sara Hernandez explains, "I am more aware of myself and I feel that I know myself more." Maria de la Cruz says that, "women's studies has expanded my viewpoints to help my critical thinking, as well as helped me to find my voice and create my own opinions." And Martha Guevara comments that WST100 "has given me knowledge about myself and...a sense of sisterhood."

As we compare our backgrounds, we are startled by our similarities and have learned to respect our differences. We have come to know, as Sunnie Schwass explains, that "not all women have the same beliefs about what it means to be a woman." We encourage each other to speak freely about our ideas, and we do. Rebecca Pelle wrote, "The open discussion in the classroom, and the intriguing readings, sustain my personal beliefs as well as educate and give solid rationale to them." And Sonali Perera suggests that the class is about "learning stories of women who have come before us...It's about empowering women to have faith in themselves...to stand up for their needs and their rights."

The students in WST100 are not the only ones who benefit from the classroom dynamics. My own learning experiences parallel those of my students—their insight and understanding force me to consider and reconsider my role as a teacher and as a woman in today's society. In so many ways I am rewarded each time I teach this class.

While we all came to this class with varying beliefs and experiences, we leave with a stronger sense of who we are. Marie Tanner explains that "women's studies educates us to find our voices and empower us as women." Though our lives as women are shaped by the powerful forces of history, culture, and tradition, we learn, as Maribelle Ordorica suggests, "despite our environment, despite everything...we can find ourselves."

Japanese New Year's Celebration

By Satoe Unoki and Yuki Ito
Staff Writers

For the Japanese, New Year's Day is one of the most important days of the year. Most people go back to their hometowns to celebrate New Year's Day with their families. Before New Year's Day, we write New Year's cards to our friends and relatives. Usually we get the cards from our friends and relatives on the morning of New Year's Day.

On New Year's Day, most people go to shrines or temples. Most Japanese people believe in both Shintoism and Buddhism. When entering shrines, we first wash our hands and mouths as a symbol of purifying ourselves. Then, we put money in offertory boxes which are located inside the shrines. After that, we clap our hands twice and pray for our happiness in the new year. After praying, some people draw shrine lots. The lots, which are usually a piece of paper, tell them their fortunes in the new year.

During the New Year season, from January 1 through January 7, we put sacred straw ropes with short paper streams in front of doorways, desks, or attached to the grill in front of the car. We also put a small orange piled up on two or three rice cakes on cars, desks, or around stove burners. Putting sacred straw ropes or small oranges piled up on rice cakes is said to prevent people from having disasters in the new year.

Japanese people visit their relatives to say "Happy New Year!" on New Year's Day. For children, it is one of the happiest days of the year because adults give money to children in celebration of New Year's Day. In the past, children flew kites, spun tops, played Japanese badminton, and played games with Japanese cards during the New Year season.

Food during the New Year season

First, we eat Soba noodles for dinner on December 31. When we eat the noodles, we try to bite off the noodles instead of slurping them. Biting off the noodles symbolizes cutting and forgetting bad memories of the past year. Then, we can start a fresh new year.

We are superstitious that good food brings us good luck. For example, we eat black beans, which brings working in good health; we eat herring roe, which brings many children; we eat dried young anchovies which brings good harvest; we eat tangle weed, which brings pleasure. We eat these foods for the first 3 days of the New Year.

For breakfast during the New Year season, we eat Zoni which is a soup with rice cakes. It is very delicious, but is sometimes dangerous because old people choke on rice cakes and die every year. You can make Zoni this New Year. These ingredients are available at an Asian market.

Ingredients for Zoni (5 servings) Directions:

Rice cakes	5	1. Peel taros, cut them small, and boil them. Cut tofu small also.
Taros	3	2. Boil soup with Japanese fish soup stock and stir miso into the
Broiled tofu (or tofu)	2 ounces	soup stock until it liquifies.
White miso	5 cups	3. Boil rice cake in a separate bowl. Put them into each soup bowl.
Dried bonito	optional	4. Add taros and tofu. Pour miso soup into other ingredients.

Complexity of Traditional Japanese Tea Ceremony

By Yuki Ito
Staff Writer

One of the many Japanese cultural traditions is a tea ceremony. About 500 hundred years ago Senno Rikyu perfected the tea ceremony. In the tea ceremony, certain decided steps must be followed. It takes about six hours to perform the whole formal tea ceremony; even drinking the tea is complicated. I have performed an informal tea ceremony many times. However, I did not know that arranging a formal tea ceremony was so complicated until Miyuki Sakai, a Japanese exchange student, told me how to do it.



Yuki Ito performing an informal tea ceremony in her home in Japan. (Photo accredited to Yuki Ito)

open the door to the tea ceremony room. This sitting position is the traditional Japanese fashion. We crawl on our hands and knees to the center of the room in this sitting position. There are Japanese flower arrangements or hanging scrolls in the room, so we appreciate them by complimenting them. Usually, the

fashion.

4. First, hostesses serve Japanese sweets. Before we begin drinking the tea, we have to finish eating the sweets. The reason is that eating sweets first helps us to taste the tea better.

5. Then, the hostesses serve the tea. Before they give the tea to the guests, they turn each tea cup about 3 times from right to left. They do this because each tea cup usually has a small picture on it, and the picture has to be in front of the guests. When we get the tea, we bow to each other.

6. Before we drink the tea, we have to turn the cup about 3 times from right to left so the small picture on the tea cup is no

longer in front of us. It is not good for our lips to touch the picture because this might cause the picture to become dirty.

7. We drink the tea in 3 sips. It is sometimes difficult, for the tea is very thick and bitter. When we finish drinking the tea, we make slurping noises to tell the hostesses that we have finished drinking the tea.

8. Afterwards, we wipe the rim of the cups that our lips touched, using Japanese napkins. Then, we turn the cup from left to right about 3 times, moving the small pictures in front of us again.

9. Finally, we appreciate the tea cups and the small pictures by saying how nice they are.

1. Before entering the tea ceremony room, we first wash our hands as a symbol of purify-

ing ourselves.
2. Sitting on the floor with our knees bent and with our toes directly beneath our bodies, we

flower arrangements in the tea ceremony room are simple.

3. After these appreciations, we sit on the floor in Japanese

Hungry? Cafe Muse and Noodle Kitchen to the Rescue

By Satoe Unoki
Staff Writer

Have you ever heard of *Om-Rice*? *Om-Rice* is a Japanese omelet which is stuffed with rice, chicken, onion, tomato, and topped with a tomato meat sauce. Cafe Muse serves delicious cuisine, including *Om-Rice* and various kinds of pasta dishes such as "Squid-Ink" with calamari. Lunch prices start at \$6. Cafe

Muse also serves 18 different micro-brewed beers on tap from all over the world. On Sunday nights, Cafe Muse has live bands and DJs. Cafe Muse was praised by the *Los Angeles Times*, "Extraordinary food, casual yet elegant atmosphere, and great beer!"
Cafe Muse

Lunch: M-F 11:30- 3:00p.m.
Dinner: M-Sun 5:30-2:00a.m.
11301 W. Olympic Blvd., on the NW corner of Sawtelle and Olympic
(310) 268-7855

When you feel like eating noodles, go to the noodle paradise: Noodle Kitchen. Noodle

Kitchen quickly serves all kinds of noodles. Ramen noodles with Wonton at \$5.95, pan fried noodles with chicken at \$5.95, and hot and sour soup at \$3.95 are highly recommended. Noodle Kitchen also serves reasonably priced combos which include vegetables or chicken lo mein with a house green salad at

\$4.95. If you do not want to worry about a parking space in Westwood, you can use the Mount shuttle departing from the Chalon campus at 5:15 p.m. or 7:05 p.m. from Chalon campus. Noodle Kitchen
10975 Weyburn Ave., Westwood
1-800-95-NOODLE

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Ask Athena: Ideas for stress relief and homemade gifts

By Athena
Goddess of War and Wisdom,
and the Mount mascot

Q: Help! I'm going crazy with all my work, especially with finals on the way. I dread getting sick. What can I do? Also, do you have any suggestions for post-semester relaxation?

A: Reward yourself after finals and a busy semester. Treat, pamper, care, rejuvenate, and love the one and only YOU! You have to care for yourself before and during finals. Each day, do at least one special thing for yourself (it can be small).

Whether it's hot or cold, winter air is dry. Lather your face and body in moisturizing lotion every day and night. Wear a sunscreen with SPF 15 year-round. Even in overcast weather, the harmful UV rays can damage your skin. Scents can do wonders for your mind either to relax or invigorate it. Try aromatherapy, or wear a favorite scent. Get a facial and a massage. You deserve it; it can be your Christmas gift to yourself. Even the gods need pampering from time to time. We have busy schedules, too.

Try some flavorful, decaffeinated teas. There are some exotic flavors as well as cold season remedy teas to choose from. Take extra vitamin C and Zinc and drink lots of fluids. Try a natural remedy for sickness, like echinacea. It can be very effective. Avoid cold foods and drinks on cold days. Keep your immune system strong by eating wholesome foods.

Put flannel sheets on your bed and wear flannel pajamas



to stay warm and cozy on those seemingly rare, cold LA nights. Watch a hot movie like Cat on a Hot Tin Roof or Some Like it Hot. Get together with friends for a spa day or just a cozy day inside. Get plenty of rest for finals. Make sure not to wear yourself out, or leave things to the last minute.

Q: I have absolutely no idea what to get my friends and relatives for Christmas. Plus, I don't have any money. Any suggestions?

A: There are many creative and inexpensive gifts to give on a student's budget. Handmade gifts are some of the most cherished. You can at least make a card that is personalized to the person receiving the gift. Here are some fairly easy and inexpensive gifts to make:

A rainstick is a wonderful thing you can keep forever. South American and African tribes made rainsticks out of bamboo and other natural materials to attract the rain. All you need is a mailing tube at least 2 1/2' long and 2 1/2" in diameter, two pounds of nails no longer than the diameter of the mailing tube, a hammer, and about two cups of rice or unpopped popcorn. Hammer in the nails randomly or in any design you like. When you're done nailing and putting in the rice or popcorn, you can paint or decorate the rainstick with fabric, paper,

shells, yarn, etc. Friends and relatives will love this gift especially if you personalize it with their name or a special design.

You can also make a personalized box for a loved one. You will need a shoe box or any box of your choice, magazines, scissors, glue, and contact paper (optional). Cut out any images or words that are significant to the person receiving this gift — things they like, things about them you admire, etc. Glue them down and cover the box with clear contact paper to make it last. You can fill the box with another gift; it will be two gifts in one.

An almost effortless gift is a Book of Coupons. Each coupon will contain an activity or treat that the recipient can redeem any time in the coming year. You can offer them a free massage, compliments of yourself. Or, how about baby-sitting if they have kids, running errands, or taking them out to dinner or a movie as your special treat? Or, even easier, you can offer hugs and/or kisses.

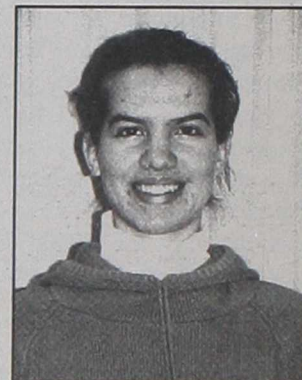
Use your creative talents to make gifts. It can be very enjoyable and therapeutic for you. They know you gave a lot of effort on their behalf. Take it from me — as a goddess, I can have anything I want; the best gifts are those that are personalized.

If you have questions for Athena, please submit them to *The Oracle*, Box 52, 12001 Chalon Road, Los Angeles, CA 90049. Responses will appear in one of next semester's issues.

A Voter's First Experience

By Varsana Staszak
Assistant Editor

I felt exhilarated and excited that I voted. I didn't expect to feel that way; I didn't expect anything at all. I felt special, like an active citizen. Immediately after voting, I looked forward to seeing the results later in the evening — talk about instant gratification. I was part of a national process. Finally, something on TV applied to me, involved me, and required my attention. I could look at the president and other elected officials and say, "You are accountable to me. Most importantly, you are accountable to those who don't have a voice, like children."



Varsana Staszak (Photo by Moria Demby)

The previous night and the afternoon before I voted, I looked through all the pamphlets to make final decisions. I agonized over some of the propositions. What do all these terms and phrases mean? I think there were three issues that were each addressed by two propositions. It was difficult to distinguish between them because they had so many clauses. Props 208 and 212 both dealt with campaign contributions. Props 207 and 211 both dealt with attorney fees. And, props 214 and 216 both addressed health care reform. I liked some things, but not other conditions about some of the propositions. I had to vote no when there was a condition I didn't like. For all the local and state candidates, I had no idea who most of them were. I read the statements of the city and superior court candidates and decided the best I could according to that.

I did something I didn't expect to do. I am not registered with any political party because I do not agree with all of the views of any one party. However, I voted for three candidates based on party affiliation. I was not familiar with any of the candidates for United States Representative, State Senator, or Member of the State Assembly. It was suggested to me that since I was voting for Clinton, I should probably also vote for fellow Democrats in these positions since they would be able to support him in his views and duties. This would help eliminate the conflict and extra obstacles that a majority of Republicans would pose to a Democratic president.

When I was watching TV in the evening, I realized that the networks only seemed to cover and explain the real meanings of the propositions on the evening of elections, when it was too late. Why hadn't they done this all along, especially concerning Prop 209?

This election, and the fact that I was involved, has inspired me to become more informed. I never took the time to read the newspapers, to watch the in-depth political analysis on TV, or to discover the political processes or the roles of those in government. I can't possibly be informed about everything. But this voting experience has provoked my interest for its own sake.

I realized that my vote counts. How could it not? This is a democracy. Literally, each vote is counted, with the exception of rigged elections. I think it is true that there are voter groups that agree to vote a certain way on certain issues and candidates. However, they are in the minority. Individuals are the majority. The only way your vote doesn't count is if you don't vote. I am not saying everyone should vote or has to vote. That is a personal decision. However, I think the reasoning of "My vote doesn't count" is false. This is especially apparent when many people choose not to vote based on this reasoning. If they had all chosen to vote, all their votes would have counted. In response to the statement, "My vote will not make a difference" — if you really want to make a difference, not voting won't help. Doing nothing will make absolutely no difference. Voting can be the first step to change. Besides, punching in the ballot and turning it in can feel very rewarding.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Perhaps your copyreaders need to pay closer attention to the front page of your newspaper. When a flagrant error is in a highlighted section, it tends to cause the reader to wonder about the caliber of English teaching at the college. A run-on sentence also appears on first page.

I was also wondering if *The Oracle* is for Mount St. Mary's College or only for the Chalon Campus. Did the statistics for Class of 2000 include Doheny?

—Sister Constance
Fitzgerald, CSI

First, I apologize for the grammatical mistakes, and other such mistakes, which appear throughout the entire newspaper. Editing the newspaper is a time consuming task, which I enjoy, but I am not always able to commit as much time as needed to producing an error free issue. As is apparent in the staff box,

the newspaper staff is not very large, therefore each of our energies are stretched many different ways, including mine. I always appreciate critiques and comments on my work and the work of the staff.

Secondly, *The Oracle* is for the entire student body of both the Doheny and Chalon campuses. Unfortunately, the newspaper is based on the Chalon campus, which makes Doheny stories hard to cover for the students on the staff. We are concerned with the lack of Doheny students on the staff, and stories about Doheny events, but we have not been very successful in our attempts to recruit Doheny students. As always, we encourage students from both of the campuses to join us.

Lastly, the Statistics for Class of 2000 did not include first year Doheny students. Doheny campus houses the

Associate degree program, therefore the first year students entering Doheny are the Class of 1998. Not including the Class of 1998 in the statistics we published on first year students was an oversight, and I apologize.

—Marla Ferguson
Editor in Chief

The Oracle of Mount St. Mary's College

The opinions expressed in signed columns and letters are the author's not necessarily the views of the staff or Mount St. Mary's College. Unsigned columns do reflect the shared views of *The Oracle* Staff. All correspondence to *The Oracle* should be addressed to: *The Oracle*, Box 52, 12001 Chalon Road, Los Angeles, CA 90049. Sorry, but we do not print unsigned letters.

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The Oracle

of Mount St. Mary's College

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Student Safety a Growing Concern

By Pamela Mustin
Staff Writer

When each day dawns, riled either by the incessant ringing of your alarm clock or by the wet slobber of your American Mutt in your left ear, the farthest thought from your mind is whether or not your life will end in tragedy. More than likely you are questioning the state of mind you were in when you enrolled in that 8 o'clock class. Just as thoughts of your life ending in tragedy are far removed in the daily morning arousals, it is reasonable to speculate that the same was true of Ennis Cosby. Inclinations of danger or the possibility of his life ending in a heinous crime probably did not occur to him either, until he experienced a flat tire in the pre-dawn hours of January 16, 1997.

Ennis Cosby, the son of entertainer Bill Cosby, was murdered on Skirball Center Drive, near the top of Sepulveda Pass, which is situated just above Bel

Air. On hearing the news, an extremely agitated student cried, "I can't believe this! Somebody just came up to Ennis Cosby while he was changing his flat tire and shot him!" It is easy to become disturbed by the saddening account. After learning the location of Cosby's murder, one may be doubly shocked; this was a "good neighborhood." The air of opulence exuded by the elaborate homes surrounding the Chalon Campus creates an atmosphere that can lull one into a false sense of security. This setting seems uncharacteristic of one that is typically associated with such a tragedy.

Because of the close proximity of the murder to the Mount's Chalon campus, an evaluation of students' readiness for an emergency situation seemed necessary. The scene of the crime is perhaps five miles from the Chalon Campus on a route traveled daily by students,

staff and faculty. Students' views regarding the commute to the Chalon campus remain virtually unchanged. One student replied, "...yeah, the crime worries me, but what can you do? I can't stop coming to school [because of the murder]." Yet, the recent murder of Ennis Cosby has heightened student consciousness concerning the time of day they travel alone as well as the security of the route to their destination.

So, what can students do to enhance personal safety while commuting or during an emergency situation? Angela Romious, a fourth year student, recounted an experience with a flat tire, at approximately 1 am. Fortunately, she was not far from one of the emergency call boxes located on the highway and she was able to utilize the emergency services offered. "After I explained where I was [on the highway], they told me to get in

my car, fasten my seat belt and lock the doors."

Second year student Nilsia Cadena disagreed passionately, "That's the worst thing a woman can do! You're an easy target for crime if you strap yourself in the car alone, especially at night.. I carry an emergency kit with me that consists of a blanket, bottled water, non-perishable food and a flashlight." Cadena recommends sheltering yourself in a blanket near a bush, away from the highway, until help arrives.

Out of four nursing students in the commuter lounge, three of them knew how to change a tire. The fourth declared that she would probably call her dad to assist her, or she would drive on the flat tire until she came to a safe area.

Quite a few students have specifically purchased cellular phones for emergency use. Others recommend avoiding late night travel alone, or on streets

that are not familiar or well lit. Jim Amormino, Director of Security at the Mount, offered tips in a telephone interview: "First of all you don't go to an isolated area, (like Cosby did) that's the worst thing you can do!" Amormino advises — "drive on the flat tire if you have to, safety is more important. The tire can be replaced."

Depending on the hour of the day, the police patrol the highway, so there is a chance that they would be able to offer assistance. Also, if you are not familiar with the process of changing a flat tire, get educated! Consider your driving patterns and determine whether or not you would be prepared if you found yourself in an emergency situation. That way you will be able to make it home, only to be awakened the next morning by a luscious ear licking or a squawking alarm clock as a reminder for that bright-eyed and bushy-tailed morning class.

Does Apathy Characterize the Mount?

By Varsana Staszak
Assistant Editor

Are you involved in extracurricular activities? Why or why not? This may seem like a simple question, but it unearths a lot of other questions and issues. For instance — why do some people participate in many clubs, committees, and events and others do not participate at all?

Of course, a major concern is time management. Most students must balance school with a job and family obligations. As students, challenges and opportunities are always coming our way.

Bernadette Lee, a fourth year student double-majoring in Business Administration and English, is the ASB Chair of Finance, the Mount's Literary Magazine editor, and a Campus Ministry student worker, among many other roles on and off campus. She also co-founded the Amnesty International club on the Chalon campus last year. Lee participates because she feels, "It is hard to just concentrate on studying. It is fulfilling to be involved. Also, you can get connections through participation, which will help in finding your first job [after college]." Lee feels she can compensate for the school's weaknesses by getting involved. However, Lee understands that, "It's hard to do a lot and take care of yourself. If you're constantly doing things,

you don't have time to prepare for applications [to graduate schools] and tests, like the LSAT."

Zoila Pelayo, a fourth year commuter student majoring in Liberal Studies, is not involved in any club activities. She is busy with school, work-study, commuting, and family activities. Her impression as a commuter is that most people go their separate ways. In fact, she feels pressure to stay within her own ethnic group. "It depends on the way you talk, your accent," Pelayo commented.

Kristien Creamer, a fourth year student majoring in Music, believes that, "Part of taking care of me is taking care of other people. If you take care of them, they'll be there for you." Both Lee and Creamer agree that managing your time intelligently is very important. Lee stated, "People who know how to balance their schedule don't waste time. If you want something to go well, you have to plan, and planning requires time and motivation." Unfortunately, she sees varying energy levels of those involved in the missions of the clubs.

"Some people don't want to deal with bureaucracy and irresponsibility," Lee added. Creamer mentioned that when an activity is popular and seems fun, people join. But when more

work and planning are involved, they seem to quit. Lee attributes this to the fact that people do not realize what the work entails, or they are not aware of the mission and beliefs of the club or organization. For example, Lee realizes that most people do not usually know what an ASB member does; only those involved in the group know.

Creamer sees that, "There are so many publications from



Bernadette Lee, an active Mount student. (Photo by Moria Demby.)

clubs, ASB, and departments, that there's information overload. People tend to stick with the people, groups, and departments, they know. I tend to pass by flyers from other clubs because it's not something I'm involved in." On the other hand, Lee thinks that, "Visibility is an asset to a club. It's important to

have representatives at different events. Members should be visible on campus as much as possible, not just in a club setting."

Lee noted that some students are unhappy at school because they are overwhelmed and have difficulties adjusting. She recognized a cycle — "If you don't get involved, you won't be any happier...You can't sit on your butt and be a successful student." Then why aren't students more involved?

Cherry Patricio, a third year student majoring in Biochemistry, the ASB Chair of the Inter-Club Council, a member of the ASB Executive Board, and part of the Family Day Committee, has some ideas. "No one takes the time to let them [students] know that they can make a difference. No one's pushing them. The majority of people don't have enough time, especially commuters. Or, they don't care, or they are too academically-oriented," Patricio contributed.

Creamer gave these words of encouragement to those trying to manage their activities — "Keep going and trying." She continued, "Having friends with similar goals provides feedback, support, help, and reassurance." Pelayo would get involved in activities because of her friends. Patricio believes students would get involved if, "They realized

they were getting something out of the experience, that their presence and vote at a meeting counts."

Patricio is involved because ever since high school, she has been involved in ASB. "I like talking with people; I meet a lot of interesting people," she said, "I'm very big on customer service. ASB needs to be a customer service job." In addition, Patricio knows from experience how participation increases one's communication and leadership skills dramatically. "I feel like I make a difference at school — it may be small, but it's a difference," Patricio continued. She also believes that such experience is great for a resume, because you will be a well-rounded person.

"Part of going to school is learning about life outside of the classroom, by joining clubs and being part of a community," Patricio strongly affirmed. She has helped plan a meeting which will bring together Sr. Karen Kennelly, Dr. Jacqueline Doud, and Dr. Jane Lingua with club representatives to discuss concerns, thoughts, and accomplishments. "ASB and clubs are part of being in school. Faculty and staff need to support that," Patricio said.

Apathy

Continued on page 4

Scholarship Information and Deadlines

By Eileen T. Herrmann
Staff Writer

The price of tuition is always climbing higher and students need financial help. Lists of scholarships and grants are available at the Financial Aid Office. For more information, visit the Financial Aid Office file. If you take the last document in the Financial Aid Office file, please ask for a copy. For a more extensive listing, visit the William Coe Library for scholarship books on reserve and internet access. There are also scholarship books for graduate studies in the Career Planning Office. Happy grant searching!

National Society of Public Accountants Scholarship Foundation

-full time undergraduate student
-enrolled in a degree program with a "B" average
-majoring in accounting
-U.S. or Canadian citizen
deadline: March 10, 1997

Health Professions Education Foundation Registered Nurse Education Scholarship

-U.S. citizen OR permanent California resident
-enrolled in/accepted to a BA nursing program in California
-agree to practice nursing in direct patient care for 2 years OR a member of a demographically under represented minority group
deadline: March 20, 1997

Health Professions Education Foundation Registered Nurse Loan Repayment Program

-U.S. Citizen OR permanent California resident
-Complete a BA in nursing by June 1997
-applicant will work full-time in a direct patient care nursing practice within a medically underserved area OR county health

facility
-agree to practice full-time for 2 years in a medically underserved area of California OR county health facility
deadline: March 20, 1997

Datatel Scholars Foundation Angelfire Scholarship

-a military veteran of the Vietnam OR a child or spouse of a military veteran
deadline: February 17, 1997

Golden State Minority Foundation Scholarship:

-financially disadvantaged minorities seeking career in business management
-currently enrolled full-time at a 4 year college in California
-major in Business Administration, Economics, Life Insurance, Administration, Public Health, Engineering or related fields
-currently a Junior or above in college/university with 3.0 GPA

-United States Citizen OR Legal Permanent Resident of the U.S.
-cannot work more than 28 hours / week
-volunteer four (4) hours per month for Foundation related activities during year of funding and pursuing their program of study
deadline: March 20, 1997

National Council of Jewish Women June Miller Nursing Education Scholarship

-women entering or continuing the academic pursuit of a career in nursing
-must have scholastic aptitude, ability to articulate clear statement of goals, likelihood of goal attainment, personal commitment
deadline: February

National Council of Jewish Women

Bernice Simon Memorial Scholarship for Mid-Life Women

-women 35 years of age or older
-an opportunity to return to school leading to economic independence
-ability to articulate a clear statement of goals

-likelihood of goal attainment and personal courage
deadline: February

Hostelling International-American Youth Hostels Spirit of Adventure Scholarship

-students, ages 17 - 26
-candidates do not need to be a member of Hostelling International
-plan to travel this summer and willing to share their experiences with Hostelling International

-submit the purpose and educational goals for their travels with plans to demonstrate achievement of their educational goals during their travels
deadline: March 15, 1997

Ronald H. Brown Commercial Service Fellowship Program

-members of minority groups historically under represented in the Commercial Service
-undergraduate sophomores with a cumulative GPA of 3.0
-college course work must be completed in the following or equivalent: English composition, foreign language, U.S. history, comparative world politics, international trade and world finance or economic development, modern non-western History and U.S. political science
-each recipient is obligated to serve 4.5 years in the Commercial Service
deadline: February 14, 1997

An East Coaster's First Impressions of LA

By Aisling McGuckin
Staff Writer

I am a student at Regis College in Boston, Massachusetts. Since the college is operated by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, I can take advantage of the Carondelet Consortium Program and spend a semester or year at another Carondelet college. I chose to spend this semester in Los Angeles at Mount St. Mary's College.



Aisling McGuckin (Photo by Moria Demby)

'Angelic fortitude and startling beauty'. These were not my first impressions of Los Angeles. My first thought as I stepped out of the terminal was, "I think I took the wrong plane." Like many east coast people, I was certain that the first thing I would see after exiting the airport was sunshine and palm trees. Instead, I witnessed LAPD officers eating donuts and lounging at an outdoor vendor stand. Outside, a cloudy sky complemented the smog already clinging to my clothes. I caught a shuttle heading for West LA and thought that after my eight hour journey I would soon be settled. Unfortunately, this was not the case; I spent the next 45 minutes dealing with a shuttle driver who didn't know where the school was located. Finally, we arrived at the school and I hastily exited the van, paid an exorbitant sum for the ride, and entered the campus in search of relaxation.

My first experience of Los Angeles may have given me a poor first impression, but this is a celestial city, a paradise which truly merits the name, "The City of Angels." Arriving at the Mount was the beginning of a succession of encounters with angels. The first of these angels was an extremely kind and surprisingly strong student who helped me find my key, my room and carry my gargantuan bags up the stairs. I put down my things in my room, drew the shades and watched the sun set on paradise. The sharp incline of the hills accentuated the dramatic angles of the sun's rays through the slowly dissipating clouds. I reached for my bag to take out my camera and found that my wallet was missing.

After sobbing on the phone to my mother, I had another encounter with an angel. This time it was my RA who came to my door and immediately took me under her wing. We searched tirelessly for the name of the shuttle company in the phone book without avail. She then drove me down the mountain to the airport to hunt down the shuttle. On the way down we passed the homes of celebrities, and my spirits lifted as she spoke of encounters with the stars. She was so patient and calming that I knew we would find the wallet. This prophesy was fulfilled and we returned to the campus just as the heavens tore open with rain.

The next day was gorgeous, as have been all the days since I came to this paradise. I have found that the stars live next door, the angels are at work and the birds and flowers of paradise are jubilant in this land of sun and amity. I have encountered openness, goodwill and beauty in the people on campus. I find the student body offers a splendid array of diverse backgrounds — a spectrum of epic grandeur reaching out from among the clouds and mountain tops and touching the city and those who emerge from it with their benevolent friendship. I am glad to be one of those emerging from the city and greeted by all I meet with a smile.

Maybe it is my naiveté which gives me this impression, or perhaps it is because I am originally a resident of a small town in Maine. For me, the natural beauty of the city is astonishing and the dispositions of the people I have met have been dazzling. Perhaps some will agree with my assessment that there is some magic at work in these high mountains.

The Mount Community's 1997 New Year's Resolutions

Every year millions of Americans make New Year's Resolutions and vow to keep them. People tell themselves that this is going to be the year that they quit smoking, get in shape, study more, pay off all of their bills, and organize their busy lives. However, due to lack of motivation and procrastination, most people fail to keep these commitments. The following is a partial list of New Year's Resolutions for 1997 made by students and faculty at the Mount gathered from a recent poll conducted by *The Oracle* staff:

- "To be an independent woman and never let a guy walk all over me again." — First year student.
- "One of my New Years Resolutions is not to make a resolution. It doesn't work." — Second year student.
- "Exercise and get toned, buy

my very first car with insurance and AAA, and get rid of all the negative men in my life." — Anna Intharathut, Second year student.
- "Laugh more and complain less." — Andrea Greybehl, Fourth year student.
- "To keep my gas tank full and to take more canyon walks." — Sister Karen Kennelly, President of the Mount.
- "Keep up e-mail with my friends." — Lorna Damo, Second year student.
- "Get out of school." — Anonymous.
- "Tell my parents about my boyfriend." — Third year student.
- "Get my divorce finalized, continue getting in shape, go to Europe, and continue my search for spiritual enlightenment." — Anonymous.
- "Make it to May 10, 1997." —

Kristine Becker, Fourth year student.

- "Wear my retainer." — Joyce Abarca, Third year student.

- "Clean my room." — Anonymous.

- "Eat more cookies." — Anthony Mena, Graduate Program.

- "To renew my New Year's resolutions on March 1st." — Jackie Doud, Academic Vice President.

- "This year I promise to study more and party less!!! I plan to read before class and NOT to sleep in my 8:00am class. I'm gonna be a good girl!" — Ivy Gallardo, First year student.

- "Stay away from my ex-boyfriend." — Monica E. Merloss, Fourth year student.

- "Make more time for myself!" — Susette L. Aguiar, Second year student.

Now is the time to reapply for

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Cal Grant Deadline is March 2, 1997

Japanese Celebration of Adulthood

By Yuki Ito
Staff Writer

January 15th is Japanese Coming-of-Age Day. The 20th birthday marks one's passage into adulthood. Twenty years old is the legal drinking and voting age. People who are twenty years old go to the coming-of-age

to set their hair in a special style with the *Furisode*, they go to hair salons very early in the morning on that day. Most Japanese hair salons offer the services to help them to put on a *Furisode*. Young women wear *Furisode* very tight, so they cannot walk fast or drive a car. Some young men wear Japanese traditional costumes called *Hakama*, but these days most of them wear suits.

In the ceremony, the mayor of the town and principal of a school give speeches to young adults. Then, one young adult



Young Japanese men and women celebrating Coming-of-Age Day (Photo accredited to Yuki Ito)

events at community centers to celebrate their adulthood.

Most young women wear traditional Japanese costumes called *Furisode*. It is a special type of kimono. *Furi* means to shake, and *Sode* means sleeves. The sleeves are very long, and to shake them is thought to attract men. That is why only young unmarried women or very young married women can wear *Furisode*. Because young women have

gives a short speech on behalf of the group of young adults. The young adults know that they have to take responsibility for themselves now.

After the ceremony, most of the young adults go to a high school reunion party. They drink alcohol and talk to their friends until late at night. For the young adults, Coming-of-Age Day is very enjoyable because they can see their old schoolmates.

Upcoming Cultural Events in the Los Angeles Area: Spring 1997

*The UCLA Fowler Museum of Cultural History is showcasing two Amish exhibits: *A Quiet Spirit*, a collection of Amish quilts from Cindy Tietze and Stuart Hodosh and *Views of An Amish Community*, a collection of photographs by Susan Einstein. The exhibit runs until February 16. For further information and museum hours (310) 825-4361. Admission is \$5 for adults, and \$3 for non-UCLA students.

*The J. Paul Getty Museum is exhibiting *Figure Drawings*, a collection of 26 works dating from the 16th through 19th centuries. Also being featured is *The Eye of Sam Wagstaff*, a collection of Wagstaff's work that reveals his fresh approach to medium, and *Manuscript Illumination of the 13th Century*, a collection of European manuscripts that explore the art of painting. All exhibits will run until April 6. Admission and parking are free. For further information call (310)458-2003.

*On February 1, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Science will open two new exhibitions. The first is titled

Roll Credits! Glass Title Paintings from Pacific Title, which will feature examples of a little-known and rarely seen aspect of motion picture history—glass title paintings. The second exhibit is *From Sex to Basic Instinct: Eight Decades of Hollywood Costume Design from "The Collection."* Admission is free. For further information and museum hours, call (310) 247-3600.

*There will be an exhibit at the Skirball Cultural Center and Museum from February 27 through July 25 entitled, *George Segal: Works From the Bible*. This will be an exhibition of Segal's best known biblical works. Admission is \$7 (general) and \$5 (students with valid ID and senior citizens); children under 12 and members are admitted free. For further information and museum hours, call (310) 440-4500.

*The Los Angeles Public Library and the Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) announces the third season of their collaborative literary series, *Racing Toward the Millennium: Voices From the American West*.

Beginning February 2 and continuing until June 1, the nine event season will feature some of the most acclaimed literary artists in the Western United States, including Sherman Alexie, Bernard Cooper, Ivan Doig, Dagoberto G. David Mas Masumoto, Kathleen Norris and Terry Tempest Williams. In addition to the readings, the series will feature *City of Refuge: The Exiled Writer in Los Angeles*, a reading and discussion among three writers living in exile from their native countries. For further information call the Central Library at (213) 228-7025.

*On February 14, 15 and 16, Cardinal Roger M. Mahony and Sister Edith Prendergrast along with the staff at the Office of Religious Education will welcome 20,000 delegates who are gathering for *Embrace and Echo the Word*. Over 140 distinguished speakers and Catholic theologians will give presentations in all areas of religious and catechetical leadership. For more information call Adrian Whitaker at (213) 637-7332.

The Allure of Evita

By Heidi D. Baldonado
Staff Writer

"You must see Evita!" That seems to be what everyone is saying these days. Because of this, many have stood in long lines eager to see who this Evita is that everyone is chanting about. Such an exclamation also led me to eagerly walk into the movie theater to fill my ears with the story of Evita. The movie was not a disappointment.

Directed by Alan Parker, the movie did not have spoken dialogue. Thus, throughout the whole movie, the tantalized audience listened quietly to the magnificent music and lyrics by Andrew Lloyd Weber and by Tim Rice, respectively. Much to my surprise, Antonio Banderas, who represented the voice of the poverty stricken Argentinians, sang a lot of the songs; and with much more surprise, he sang them beautifully with his mesmerizing Spanish accent. Banderas' character tracks the life of Evita, played by Madonna, who won a much-deserved Golden Globe for best actress for her role in this film.

From Eva Duarte's departure from her poor village to her marriage to President Peron, played by Anthony Pryce, to her death, Banderas sings of her controversial life. Knowing the right upper class people and men, Evita rises from the status of an under-qualified ambitious actress to a first lady of Argentina during the political revolution in the 1950's. As first lady, she becomes a leading figure in politics, becoming much loved by the impoverished Argentinians as she tends to their needs.

To keep the quote alive, I must say, "You must see Evita!" The actors truly act and sing their parts genuinely as if each lived the life of their character. As Siskel and Ebert would say, "Two thumbs up" or other reviewers, "Four stars," but I say, "Go and see what the hype is about and experience 'Evita.'"

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Donate a Patch for the Siena Day Quilt

This year Siena Day's theme will be "Quilting Our History." Siena Day is scheduled for March 19, 1997 on the Doheny Campus. The Siena Day Planning Committee is asking that every member of the college donate one 4-inch square piece of 100 percent cotton cloth. The finished quilt will be displayed on Siena Day and on each campus at a later date. Patches can be delivered to the Chalon or the Doheny Campus Student Activities Office, or it can be sent to Student Activities Director Emily Langdon (Chalon) or Maria Lyons (Doheny). Questions can be directed to Langdon (310)471-9533 or Lyons (213)746-0450. Patches must be received by February 14.

Athena Gives Advice on Relationship Mayhem and the Stars

By Athena
Goddess of War and Wisdom

Q: I'm a Cancer and I think my love match is a Taurus. The problem is that I think I'm falling for a Virgo. What should I do?



A: Don't fret! You don't have a problem. In fact, you are compatible with Taurus, Scorpio, Pisces, and Virgo. Virgos and Cancers are both sensitive and appreciate each other. If you like a Virgo, that's great. FYI: If you are seriously interested in horoscopes and the stars, a person's astrological chart is more than just their Sun sign. The Sun sign is the standard for Western horoscopes. However, according to a person's time of birth, they have various signs for each planet in our solar system, from the moon to Mars. Knowing the signs for the other planets can give you a fuller pic-

ture of someone. In addition, Chinese and Western astrology combined can be fun and fascinating. Chinese astrology is based on a 12 year cycle. A different animal corresponds with each year in the cycle. For example, 1997 is the year of the Ox. There are many books on these subjects. Have fun! Also, remember that a person is not just a combination of astrological signs. People do not always fit neatly into categories, but astrology can sometimes provide helpful explanations.

Q: I have two boyfriends and I sincerely don't know which one I love the most. Both proposed to me and now I have to decide who to marry and who to leave. One is 21 years old and sweet as can be. The other is 27 years old and more mature. What do I do?

A: First of all, don't even think about marriage when you have

two boyfriends. You're obviously not ready for a commitment. Polygamy may have been rampant on Mount Olympus, but having two boyfriends these days just doesn't cut it. I wonder how you've managed to pull this off. It doesn't seem you could love either of them. If your story is true, I would be honest and gentle with each of them. In fact, the wisest thing to do [this is coming from the Goddess of Wisdom, you know] is to break up with both of them. Explain to each of them that you need to make some major changes in your life and that it is better to go at it alone. Start fresh. Take some time to think about yourself, your life, and what you really want. Develop love, trust, and respect for yourself. Only then will you be ready for a loving and monogamous relationship. Maybe you can even get back together with one of your boyfriends — but leave that until later. You've got some thinking and changing to do.

May Graduates: The Importance of Contributing to the Senior Gift

By Jean Day
Contributing Writer

I felt compelled to write this article directly to the seniors and in the first person, because I am, after all, one of you. As some of you already know, I am the Chair of the Senior Gift Giving Committee.

The Senior Gift Giving Committee is a volunteer committee that is organized to raise unrestricted funds for the college. Unrestricted funds are monies given to the college to be used for any purpose as opposed to being used for a specific cause. At the end of the year, a check is presented to the President of the Mount, Sr. Karen Kennelly, on behalf of the Class of 1997. This may seem very unimportant at this time, because of all the other responsibilities you have. That brings me to the purpose of this article: What is your responsibility?

Since I became the Chair of this committee, I have received several distressful responses about giving money back to the Mount. Some of the comments I have gotten have been, "I already give \$23,000 to them and I'm not giving anymore." Another comment I heard was, "The Mount has done nothing for me; why should I give them money?" I was shocked to find out how students felt about giving back to the school that would soon be their alma mater.

I cannot speak for everyone else when I say this, but I know what the Mount has done for me. Aside from giving me an invaluable education, I will be taking away so much more. First, the

friendships that I have made will stay with me for the rest of my life. Throughout these past five years I have encountered some of the most beautiful souls that have touched my life in so many ways. Although some of them have come and gone, the memories that I have made will be precious and forever in my heart. When I needed a shoulder to cry on they were there; when I wanted to have fun they were there; when I needed help with my assignments they were there. How could I have ever met these people if I had not been a student at the Mount? You may say you could have met other people. My response is, "But you chose the Mount."

What about that professor who cut you some slack when you had too many absences or did not turn that assignment in on time? How about that time you had a question about your take home test and were able to call your professor at home? I could give you several different situations and I'm sure at least one would apply to you. I can't make you have pride in the Mount. I only ask one thing of you. Close your eyes and think about your first day here. Think about your feelings, fears, and goals. Now think about yourself now. Think about how you overcame those fears and accomplished some of those goals and the new ones that you set. This is the place that helped you get there. So, if you really consider all of this, you will realize that you are leaving with

much more than just your education. It doesn't matter the dollar amount. The important thing is that you give from your heart and give what you can. This should be something that you are happy to do.

I do not want to chase you down begging for money, but I also do not believe that I should have to. Please open your heart and support the institution that gave you your wings so that you could fly, nourished your brain, comforted your soul, and set you free. Don't you think it is time to say "Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!"

Please include the following information when sending donations:

**Senior Gift: Jean Day or Teresa Davis
c/o Alumnae Gift Giving Office
Chalon Campus**

Everyone is Responsible For Black History Month

By Sonia J. Cortez
Staff Writer

What is Black History month? Why is there a Black History Month? Whose job is it to teach me about Black history? These are a few questions that many of us non-African Americans tend to ask. Reality is that we do not know the truth about Black history. Before I began writing this article, I thought I would be able to answer some of these questions and, consequently, show my support for my black brothers and sisters. It was not until I spoke to someone from this college that I realized I did not have any answers and I really do not know much about Black history. I started to think about my personal experiences and struggles as a Chicana. One of those many struggles is seeing people celebrate Cinco de Mayo as some great holiday, when in reality, Cinco de Mayo is simply a commercialized event that is not even celebrated in Mexico. It becomes very aggravating having to explain to people year after year what the 5th of May really is. Shouldn't we know what we were celebrating before we spend our time and money on some festivity? It was not until then that I realized that it is not every African-American's job or obligation to teach the rest of us about their culture and experience. History is something we are all a part of. It should include the story of all people through their own perspectives. We must know mainstream history books do not tell the story of the African-American community as it should be told. That is a shame. But what is more shameful is that some of us get so caught up in making the grade that we have no more time to challenge ourselves and the academic system to learn about history, the parts that have been omitted that is. There are many great African-American writers who do share with us their experiences, struggles, and victories through their books and poetry. But, it is our responsibility to take the time out from our oh so very busy schedules and read them. We must realize that if mainstream history books do not include the whole truth about ethnic groups and cultures, then we cannot be sure we know the truth about our own history. Looking around, being aware, and being realistic is how I can offer my support to all "minority" groups and, during the month of February, to all black brothers and sisters. That is just one Chicana's perspective on Black History Month.

Apathy

Continued from page 1

Lee believes that, "Professors should show support through more personal involvement. I want to know them through personal involvement outside of the classroom." She realizes that some are fairly active and others are overworked. "I want a teacher who has an interest in my well-being beyond the grade. I would like a mentorship with some of my professors, which would add to understanding," continued Lee.

Creamer observes that a lot of students are lost. "We can learn from someone who's been there before [like a teacher]. We can find out if our concerns are worthwhile or frivolous," she added. Pelayo finds that some teachers want to interact with students while others are more reserved. "In order for a teacher to have interest in you, you need to go to them. If you don't interact, you don't know if they're interested," she said.

Lee thinks the various departments and majors should get together to support each other. Pelayo said, "If I know about activities from my department, then I'll go. It depends upon the activities your department does for your major." Creamer concedes that, "Not enough people know about each department. People make assumptions about departments and rumors spread." Finally, Pelayo declared, "The department needs to have activities and inform people of them, to enrich the major."

"Involvement has a dual quality — the College must provide the opportunities, while the students take the initiative," Creamer stated.

The Oracle of Mount St. Mary's College

The opinions expressed in signed columns and letters are the author's, not necessarily the views of the staff or Mount St. Mary's College. Unsigned columns do reflect the shared views of *The Oracle* staff. All correspondence to *The Oracle* should be addressed to: The Oracle, Box 52, 12001 Chalon Road, Los Angeles, CA 90049. Sorry, but we do not print unsigned letters.

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The Oracle

of Mount St. Mary's College

Archives
MSMC

February 14, 1997

Volume 2

Number 5

Is Mount Security Adequate for Students' Needs?

By Summer Cervantez
Staff Writer

Here's the scenario. It's about 1:00 a.m. and you have just come back on campus after a long Saturday night. While you are getting ready to go to bed, a stranger down the hill is approaching the front gate. This man, an armed criminal, identifies himself as a guest and asks to be let in. Why should you be concerned? We have security, and they would not let a suspicious man onto a campus full of women—would they? Do you know enough about security to feel safe in the light of this scenario?

Three Mount students from Chalon, after an incident occurring the night of December 12, 1996, did not feel safe and were prompted to write a letter to The Oracle. Diana Arevalo, a first year student; Brenda Canales, a second year student; and Erika Jones, a first year student, described how they had just arrived home when they heard a young woman screaming outside. Jones preceded to call the security station in the Circle. There was no answer, and the message advised Jones to call an emergency beeper number and "wait for the return call."

Arevalo commented, "That was our option, to just wait for a response. What if somebody was getting raped or murdered?" Jones said she was becoming anxious; the students decided to

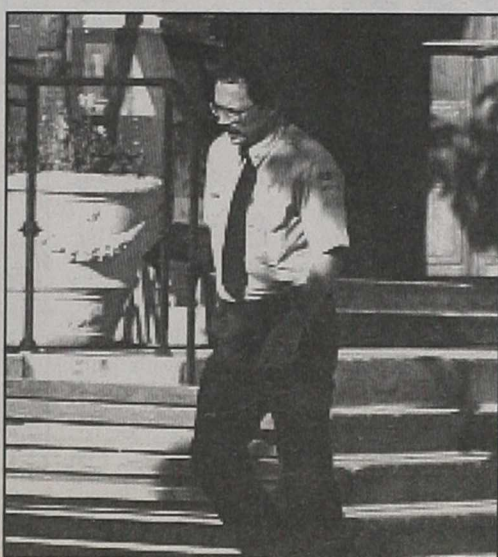
call the guard down at the front gate. Jones claimed the guard seemed unresponsive, but finally assured her he would look into the situation. Fifteen minutes later, the students called again to see what was going on with the situation.

Canales explained, "The guard claimed a Resident Assistant (R.A.) was being sent to look after it, then he continued to put us on hold and stall."

While the guard was away from the phone, the students finally heard, over the guard's radio, that two girls had been screaming because they had been fighting. "The security guard, at no time, mentioned to me that everything was fine. Then, when I questioned why we had received no answer from the Circle, the guard said that what happened was an R.A. problem. He then asked for our names in a suspicious tone," Jones said. Arevalo asked, "What if it had been more serious? What if it had been an attacker? Would an R.A. be equipped to both save herself and the victim from the attacker?"

How much do you know about the Mount and its security procedures? Do you think the Mount needs better security or is

everything as is should be? Mount students are divided over the question. Giovanna Brasfield, a third year student, commented, "I think we need more security around campus. This is a whole campus full of women...we are not safe. We



An on duty security guard patrols the Chalon campus during morning hours. (Photo by Moria Demby)

definitely need a 24 hour security down at the front gate."

Ho Huong, a first year student, agrees with Brasfield. "The guards, when they are at the gate, never seem to stop us—even when I'm with my guy friends. I know my guy friends aren't a threat, but still people need to be checked in—always.

This especially becomes a big concern when guys are wandering around in the halls, alone, late at night."

Others believe that the Mount security is doing their job, and doing it well. "I think they do a good job. They check most of the cars. If we need them, we know where to find them," said Judith Locke, a third year student. Susy Urias, also a third year student, believes "there's no need for concern, it's a small campus."

And a few Mount students feel security is doing their job too well. Cristina Ocegueda remarked "Sometimes the guards are too overprotective, and want to walk you everywhere...that makes me really uncomfortable."

Security is under the supervision of Dr. Jane Lingua, Vice President of Student Affairs. According to Lingua, "Residence Life is also involved by acting as a liaison because of the need for communication on campus outside of office hours."

Each year the school contracts out for a private company to provide security. Bids are accepted from a variety of different companies. The school examines possibilities and chooses what they feel is the best

qualified company for the Mount. For the last nine years, the school has had confidence in contracting with Great American Security. Great American Security is owned by Jim Amormino, who aside from owning the company, has been an active member of the L.A.P.D. for 24 years. Amormino's company, in addition to providing security for the Mount, provides security for McDonald's, the Salvation Army, and for various homeowners and V.I.P. services.

Amormino responded to the students' complaints in an interview. "First of all, I would like to clear up a common misconception. The guard shack was never designed to be a 24 hour, someone-will-be-there at all times post. That is why the guards have pagers. The guards often have other duties they should be attending to." Those duties, according to Amormino, have four basic components. "The guards are either to be on safety patrols, enforcing parking violations, checking in visitors,

Security

Continued on page 3

Johnson Controls' Conduct in Residence Halls Over Christmas Break Called into Question

By Varsana Staszak
Assistant Editor

The Mount's Chalon residence halls were recently installed with cables which will provide students with access to the Internet, e-mail, cable television, and a new phone system. The cabling has been an arduous and sometimes difficult process. Resident students were surprised to be welcomed with wires, workers, and a variety of obstacles in the beginning of Spring semester.

During the first couple days of school, most resident students were woken at 6 a.m. by the sounds of drilling, hammering, and workers talking and bustling back and forth in the hallways. Mitel workers were responsible for the phone system, while Johnson Controls dealt with the cabling.

Larry Smith, the Assistant Vice President for Instructional

Support Services, coordinates and directs the cable installation on campus. He meets with Johnson Controls weekly and discusses any pertinent issues. He explained that the installation is merely the beginning stage of updating and advancing the technology of the school. He emphasized that it is how the faculty, staff, and students use the technology which is most important.

Karin Middleton, the Director of Residence Life, acted as a liaison for the residence halls. She explained that the workers' goal was to work in faculty and staff offices during the night and early morning, and in the residence halls during the day. Rossiter Hall was completed the week before final exams in the Fall semester, and some finishing touches were added during finals week.

"It was a quick, rather than a gradual process of installing technology. It was a shock to go full-force," Middleton stated. Smith explained that, "We were collapsing several months work into only a couple months."

The school requested that the cable installation for Brady and Carondelet Halls be completed during Christmas break. "Johnson Controls brought every crew member from Doheny and [Administrative] offices. Most workers worked 14 hour shifts seven days a week. They were hustling and wanted to finish before the end of break," Middleton explained.

Some wires and dust were left in rooms because workers wanted to get the installation done as soon as possible. Furniture was moved in order to do the work. Bathrooms were

used in Carondelet rooms. Middleton commented that, "It was inefficient to find a men's public bathroom, especially with long shifts. It was the most logical choice [to use the Carondelet bathrooms]. However, they made poor choices in not taking care."

Dr. Jane Lingua, Vice President of Student Affairs, found that there were three main problems — "Rooms were in disarray and trash was left, there were missing items, and phone calls were made on student phones." The Mount is not sure if Johnson Controls' employees are responsible for any thefts, but is looking into it.

It seems that all resident students were affected by the instal-

Johnson Controls

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ATTENTION STUDENTS!

The Chalon Student News and Doheny Happenings can be found right here! pg. 8

Our African-American Sisters

By Aisling McGuckin
Staff Writer

The day glistened in the bathing sun of approaching spring as Ella Fitzgerald's voice kissed the air. A group of women at Mount Saint Mary's College were assembled in the Chalon Campus Circle on February 3 to commemorate the beginning of Black History Month with a celebration led by the African-American Council of Women. The AACW is an active coalition of women on campus dedicated to fostering an atmosphere of sisterhood and unity among students of color on campus. The committee members presented the opening ceremony with sophistication and energy.

The Vice-President of the AACW, Angila Romious, led the Black National Anthem and gave a warm welcome. President Dianne Stewart gave an opening address articulating the need to develop inner strength in the face of a history of the rape of the human dignity and freedom of African-American culture. She called for strength on many levels, appreciation of the beauty of the African diaspora, and the accomplishments of those who have possessed faith in their dreams. The Chair of Finance, Carol Hill, presented an array of poems reflecting these accom-

plishments and dreams of African-Americans. The Chair of Publicity, Selena McKay, then proceeded to vocalize the pride of the Black American through her selection of poems. The celebration ended with an explana-



AACW members at the February 3 Opening Ceremony for Black History Month. (Photo by Moria Demby)

tion of the upcoming events through which the campus community will celebrate Black History Month under the leadership of the AACW (see list of upcoming events).

What is it like being an African-American student at the Mount, and particularly a member of the AACW? How is the AACW active on campus and what are its aims? What was accomplished at the AACW January retreat?

According to Romious, the AACW retreat was, "A chance to really talk to people and get to know them as individuals. We

came to a clearer understanding of who we are as a group, what it takes to succeed as a community and created a bond that we could take back to campus with us. This resulted in a close knit sisterhood among the nine women who went. The retreat went extremely well."

One of the women who attended the retreat was Dawn Parker, a transfer student from Philadelphia, who shared her insights and her experiences with the AACW as a new student. "There was bonding among the many different personalities all gathered in the same place. They were there to share and to meet each other, to bond and overcome dissension within the group."

Romious felt a similar response to the retreat. She attributed the new attitude of sisterhood to the new president, Dianne Stewart. Romious felt that Stewart clarified the goals of the group through the experience, that now the aim of the group is to "promote sisterhood and take new students under our wing. It's comforting to see and be welcomed by people with whom you can relate because they look like you and are familiar. Our job is also to enlighten

MSMC; we can't educate because not everyone wants to be educated. We have to focus on the individuals, the women of color who are constantly in a struggle. The aim was to let your sisters see who you are, and that was a very soothing experience."

African-Americans constitute a small portion of the Mount student population. Most of the African-American women interviewed felt comfortable here because they have become friends with those around them, and have succeeded in gaining a

A number of students responded that discrimination comes in the form of distinction from the norm. Gaion Herring, a fourth year Nursing student, provided this insight: "I have felt a definite distinction as an African-American student. Other students of color, Filipinos, Blacks, Latinas, have been very accepting of me. But many White students were not. So I made a point of getting to know those who did seem to have a problem with me. I made the effort and now those people are true friends of mine." At the same time, Herring feels that there is a great deal of interaction between students. She also sees that there is participation in events of other cultures which she feels is conducive to the growth of the individual.

The Black community on campus is a strong contingent of individuals, despite the small number of students that make up that group. "There is a strong community at the Mount, encompassing commuter and resident students, who look out for each other," says Adamma Okonkwo, a second-year commuter student who is an active member of campus life. When asked whether she felt supported and encouraged by the predominantly White faculty, she

Sisters

Continued on page 4

Black History Month Events

Feb 25 Movie Night
The Color Purple
Lecture Hall
7:30 p.m.

Feb 26 African Marketplace
Circle 10 - 5

Feb 28 Stepshow Presentation
Circle 12 p.m.

sense of sisterhood among the Black community on campus. Have they faced discrimination?

Student Perspectives

Are We Really Two Campuses With One Mission?

By Sonia J. Cortez
Staff Writer

The Mount is composed of two campuses. The Doheny campus, located near the downtown area, offers an A.A. program and serves as a stepping stone for the Baccalaureate program. The Chalon campus, in Brentwood, offers a Baccalaureate program. These seem to be the only differences between campuses, but in reality there are many misconceptions about students from both campuses.

One very big misconception is that the Doheny campus offers much easier courses. The other misconception is that Chalon students are snobby, stuck up, and sometimes even racist. The question is, where do students get these ideas?

The number of transfers from Doheny has stayed relatively the same for the past five years. The average number of transfers is 50 to 55 students every Fall. The number seems fairly small considering 200 students attend Doheny. The number of students graduating from Doheny with their A.A. degree has dropped from Spring, '95 and Spring, '96. In 1995, there were 70 graduates but in 1996, that number decreased by almost

20 students.

It is frequently assumed that many Doheny students eventually transfer to Chalon upon completing their A.A. degree. Yet, many students do not complete their A.A., nor transfer to Chalon. There may be many reasons why this happens, but could it possibly be that Doheny students sometimes receive the wrong message about Chalon?

One Doheny transfer student felt that the reason she was most intimidated about transferring to Chalon was because of comments made by certain professors. This student, who wishes to remain anonymous said, "Many [Doheny] professors have said that their course would be easier and would move at a slower pace than it would at Chalon."

Comments such as these can not only be intimidating to students but aggravating as well. There is no reason why courses should be any different at one campus or the other. The difference should be based only on lower or upper division requirements. The message sent to students is not a positive one and can discourage students from transferring to Chalon.

Another fourth year transfer student, who wishes to be known only as Cruz, felt that her advisor at Doheny did not help her in suggesting certain courses that were necessary and crucial for her major. "It seems that their major concern was having me get an A.A." Cruz had told her advisor many times that her goal was to enter the B.A. program as soon as possible. It became a challenge to get her advisor to sign off on her classes, especially when some were at Chalon. "I feel that I could have done much more with my time had I just entered the B.A. program first. I would not have wasted so much time," explained Cruz.

An A.A. degree can serve as an incentive and is something to show for those who have successfully completed their first two years in college. Not every person is able to complete four years at a college, but if this degree is offered at Doheny it should also be an option for Chalon students. It should not be assumed that the A.A. program is less valuable or designed for less qualified students.

Hassel Perez, a fourth year Chalon student, stated that everyone should be able to

receive their A.A. regardless of which campus one attends. If The Mount offers an A.A. degree it should be available for all students not only for those who are Doheny students. "Everyone should be able to get an A.A. It can serve as an incentive to continue pursuing a B.A."

Perez, who is also a member of Kappa Delta Chi, feels that official clubs and organizations should be open for students on both campuses. Kappa Delta Chi is one of the organizations which publicizes and recruits members from both campuses. Clubs and organizations could provide opportunities to bring more students together. Maybe this could be a way for students to get to know each other and base ideas on what they see rather than what they hear.

When Adamma Okonkwo, a second year Chalon student, was asked what she thought about the stereotype that some Doheny students may have about Chalon students being snobby, she replied that it was in no way true. "Chalon is such a diverse campus that it makes it easier and enjoyable to get to know more people. Meeting new people and making great friends is what

takes up the most time, and there is basically no time for snobbish attitude," said Okonkwo.

Rumors and stereotypes play a big part in the existing relationship between Doheny and Chalon students; the reality is that all students bring something valuable to academic institutions. It is time for us all take responsibility to improve our college. If faculty and administration could be more careful about comments and messages being sent, maybe students would not assume that one college is better than the other. Advisors and students should be able to have good communication, and hopefully this will help in meeting the needs of the students. Doheny and Chalon should extend invitations to events to all students from both campuses. Transportation does not seem to be the problem but rather miscommunication or lack of communication. Maybe if Horizon's Day and Siena Day were not seen as a day off or a day to catch up on homework, The Mount can become united at least twice a year. Eventually, the only difference between Doheny and Chalon should be their addresses.

F G M Survivor to Speak at the Mount

By Marla Ferguson
Editor in Chief

Female genital mutilation has been performed in many African, Asian and Middle Eastern countries and continues to this day. Soraya Mire, the writer and director of the documentary *Fire Eyes*, will be on the Mount's Chalon campus February 19 to discuss this growing issue and show part of her documentary.

The Mount St. Mary's Chapter of Amnesty International is sponsoring Mire's visit to the Mount, along with other organizations, including the Associated Student Body, Sociology Club, Latinas Unidas, Phi Alpha Delta, Campus Ministry, the Philosophy Department, the Women's Studies Department. It is also partially funded through a Hewlett Grant. According to Norfina Joves, third year student and Amnesty International President, "Amnesty is proud to present this; this is something totally different for the campus."

Mire is a Somali native who underwent female "circumcision" at the age of 13. While a college student in France, she collapsed from pelvic pain and was taken to the hospital. Mire's circumcision was performed at the encouragement of her mother. There are different variations of female circumcision; Mire suffered one of the most severe procedures in which her clitoris, labia minora, and labia majora were removed, and the opening of her vagina was narrowed and sewn shut, leaving an opening just large enough for urine and menstrual flow. These circumcisions are performed to ensure the virginity of women before their marriage. Many of these women suffer complications their entire lives from this procedure. Circumcisions are usually performed on girls aged seven to eight. "Soraya is mainly standing up for girls who are too young to understand what is happening to them," commented Joves.

Fire Eyes has been aired on several networks, including PBS and the Discovery Channel. Mire's presentation will consist of three parts: a presentation by Mire, 45 minutes of her film, followed by a question and answer period. The event will be held from 5-7 p.m. in the Little Theater. The presentation is open to Mount, UCLA, and Loyola Marymount University students. "This is a big step for the Mount," says Joves, "and I think that it is really important that we take this challenge to become educated about something we know little about."

guards and R.A.s. "The guards are to handle issues that occur outside. The policy is that if a fight or conflict occurs inside, it is the responsibility of the R.A.s to handle the situation." Amormino failed to respond directly to the issue of whether or not the conduct of his guards, while answering to the call about the women screaming outside, was wrong.

That the R.A.s are expected to handle what could be a potentially dangerous situation confuse and anger some Mount students. "It's not the job of an untrained R.A. to confront attackers," said Huong. An anonymous R.A. felt it was not her responsibility to "go out and look for prowlers or burglars." The R.A. had "no problem with filing reports," but did not wish to jeopardize her own safety. Lingua felt that in this particular situation, "the R.A. was not responsible to wander off and investigate." Lingua believes that an R.A.s role would have been to handle any follow up procedures: filing out incident reports, recommending counseling, and contacting the proper administration.

These varying contentions of what exactly the security guards' jobs entail can be clarified to an extent through policy. However, these contentions create difficulties outside of what is written down on paper. It is quite common for students, staff, faculty, and even visitors to approach the front gate, and be let in without being asked for identification. Many students are greeted by "Hello, my friend!" and go on their way. Still, the annual security report states that, "after 6:30 p.m., visitors and guests will be required to stop at the college entrance, show I.D., and give the guard

their intended direction." Lingua adds that the policy also requires that "Mount students show identification...and this includes female visitors."

How time consuming is this process, and how necessary is it? Amormino admits, "Entrance is discretionary. Many of the guards have been here a long time and know almost everybody. If a student, staff, or faculty member has been here for a long time, it seems almost preposterous to ask for I.D." Michele Nyguen, a first year student, shares Amormino's views, "The campus is small and everyone knows everyone. There is no need to interrogate everyone as they come in."

However, some Mount students feel that the admission procedure at the front gate is the school's largest security concern. An anonymous third year student explained, "There are certain guards that do their job, but there are some who don't—especially when it comes to checking people in at the front gate."

An anonymous guard described the situation as being strictly his own personal decision. "This is a small campus, everyone is familiar with each other. If I see someone or something that looks like a concern, I'll take care of it," the guard said.

Not only is the Mount's front gate a concern, but more than a few people who were interviewed knew of other ways to sneak in male visitors after hours. Although not well published (for obvious reasons), many claim to have seen people entering the Mount through the Carondelet Sisters of St. Joseph entrance and driving on in, home free. "You'd think someone would catch on to a bunch of young guys going to stay at a nun's retirement home," laughed an anonymous fourth year student.

Additional issues are the type of training the guards receive and the age of the guards. Amormino has complete confidence in his guards. "Aside from the state sponsored training course and a test (both which take about a month to complete), the guards must have no prior arrests and undergo a background check by the Department of Justice. Once they are given their license, they must renew it every seven years," explains Amormino. "Beyond that," Amormino wanted to point out, "I have 50 or 60 applicants for every position, I have more than enough resources to choose the best person for the job. The men I hire almost all have previous experience. There are many with military training and plenty of previous security experience elsewhere."

Arevalo found it important to ask, "Why can't they [the Mount] hire any younger guards?" Amormino responded honestly to this question. Amormino frustratingly said, "All the young guards I have hired have been a bad mix with all of the young women. Almost inevitably, I will have to terminate that guard because he is fraternizing with the students. I suppose it works both ways. If the

students want younger guards they shouldn't fraternize. Of course, if the guards want to keep their jobs, they should know better." Amormino said he feels more secure hiring the older guards because they "seem to be more responsible and have a lot of life experience to contribute."

There is still the question of what kind of technical safety is provided at the Mount, and what kind of safety could be provided. Currently, the paging system has some flaws. If a guard is in the parking strict or at a location that places a lot of hills and cement between the dorms and him, it is possible the pager won't work.

In terms of long-term goals, both Lingua and Amormino are optimistic. Lingua said, "The possibility of emergency phones, especially in the parking garages and by the fitness center, is being looked into." Lingua feels, "we do not need more security guards, but that we need to use the ones we do have effectively." Amormino believes, "Security is doing its job to the best of its ability." He feels new technology is a "great idea." However, Amormino contributes, "I think if the students want a 24 hour station, we need more guards. The possibility of a 24 hour gate with computerized admittance has been discussed. But the issue always comes down to money and how much of it the school is willing to spend."

Whatever your take on the situation, Lingua and Amormino both want to stress the importance of communication about security ideas, problems or suggestions. Lingua encourages anyone who has a problem to address her directly and openly. "If the students come to me with a problem, we can take immediate action," Lingua adds. Amormino too would like to see students visit with him about concerns. "If students feel the need to call me directly, my number is (310) 541-7755," said Amormino. Lingua concludes, "Incidents like what were described in the letter do not have to happen again. Irresponsibility will not be tolerated when it comes to security."

Whatever beliefs you may hold about the present security here at the Mount, the forum certainly exists to make your voice heard. For those wanting more information, an annual security report is published in November and is made available to all students, staff, faculty and parents. The report details statistics, and general information any member of the Mount community might find useful. For instance this year's report shows an increase of larceny and burglary over the last several years and that no incidents of violent crimes have been committed.

Regardless of what kind of protection hired security can provide, three key suggestions might be useful for any Mount student, staff, faculty and visitors: never walk alone, carry some type of defense or take a defense class, and always have a plan about what you would do if you were attacked.

Note: In the *The Oracle's* next issue get all the inside information about Doheny's security.

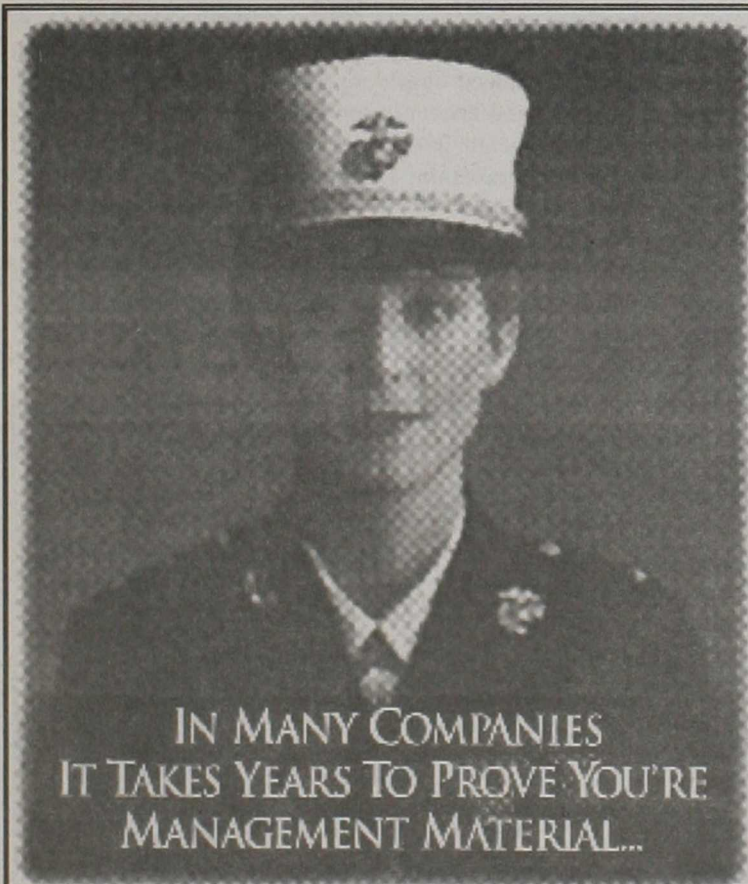
Security

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and checking environmental factors—including locking doors, checking alarms and securing exterior areas." Amormino continued, saying that he did not feel that the guards should only be in the shack when on duty: "If the guards are always in the shack, it means that they are not securing the area, and that should be their primary concern."

What also surprised Amormino was that the students who had a complaint were unaware of the separation of duties between the

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Upcoming Cultural Events in the Los Angeles Area

*Alice Walker, author of *The Color Purple*, will be speaking at Occidental College on Tuesday February 25 at 11:30am. Women's Studies of the Mount will be taking 40 students, sign-up with Dr. Eggebroten.

*The Bilingual Foundation of the Arts presents *A Romp Through the 17th Century!* "The Misfortunes of a House" a play by Mexico's beloved heroine Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz will be playing through March 23. Performances alternate weekly between Spanish and English. For more information call (213) 225-4044. Student and teacher discounts available.

*The Fullerton Civil Light Opera (FCLO) opens its season with the musical comedy "Anything Goes" by Cole Porter. Playing at the Plummer Auditorium in Fullerton beginning tonight and playing through

March 2. For further information call FCLO at (714) 526-3832.

*The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles presents an extensive survey of the artist's paintings and sculpture, *Ellsworth Kelly: A Retrospective* that will span five decades of work. MOCA will exhibit 42 paintings, three sculptures and a selection of works on paper that begin in the late 1940s and highlight his prolific contributions to the 20th-century. Exhibiting from February through May 18 at California Plaza. MOCA's Focus Series: *Jennifer Pastor* exhibits the first solo museum show by this Los Angeles-based artist, presents a freestanding sculpture and a new work on the four seasons. Exhibiting through March 2. *Color Fields: Selections from the Permanent Collection*, organized by MOCA looks at three distinct but related forms of American abstract painting as in

MOCA's collection: color-field, hard edge and monochrome. Exhibiting until March 30 at California Plaza. For general museum information call (213) 676-6222.

*Deaf West Theatre presents *Saint Joan* opening on February 2 with limited engagement thru March 16. Student discounts available. Call (213) 660-4673 for reservations and information.

*Sierra Madre's Wisteria Vine Festival will be held on Sunday, March 16 between 9 and 5. On display will be the world's largest blooming plant, the Wisteria Vine, for which the fes-

tival is named. The vine covers nearly an acre with a million lavender blossoms, totalling an estimated 250 tons. The festival also offers more than 100 artisans displaying original works—clothing, jewelry, paintings, wood objects, fiber arts, and other gift items. Additional attractions include a Classic Car Show, street musicians, and "al fresco" dining in Village restaurants. To order your FREE tickets and for additional information call (818) 306-1150.

*The Getty Research Institute is presenting a public lecture series to discuss local cultural/historical archives and collections. It is part of the

Institute's ongoing "L.A. as Subject" project. There is one remaining lecture, February 24—Apocalypse and Utopia: L.A. Narrative of the 20th Century. It will be held at the Getty Research Institute in Santa Monica.

*Who are the people of Boyle Heights and what are their stories? On February 22, historians and residents of the multicultural communities of Boyle Heights will gather for an evening of storytelling at Self Help Graphic & Art Inc., 3802 Cesar E. Chavez Ave., L.A. This event is sponsored by The Getty Research Institute and the Los Angeles Public Library.

Sisters

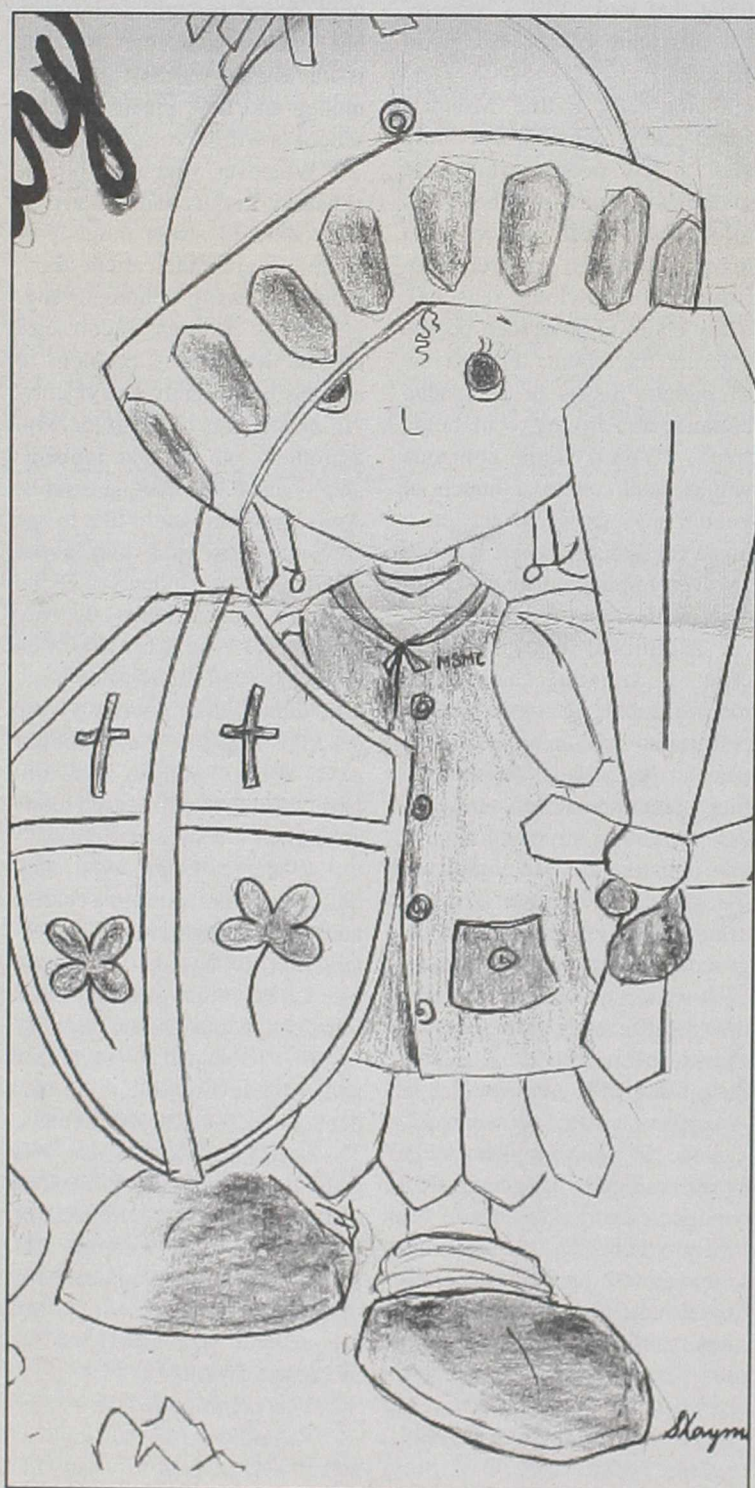
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responded, "Yes, the educators at this school are excellent and I feel that they provide a strong system of support for the students here."

Romious also affirmed this assertion. Though there are few professors of color here, she feels that she does have role-models to emulate. "Dr. Siebert is one of my role models. She is a woman in science who enjoys and appreciates the ideas of any woman who has an interest in science. She's tough, but I love her. Teresa Davis is also a hero to me. She is an African-American professional woman; very classy, perfect business personality and ideology about life. She ran the Fall AACW Self-esteem Workshop." Romious adds that the faculty and staff had not demonstrated much support for the cultural organizations on campus in the past, but

that recently they have been taking more interest in the activities.

African-American women on campus. These are issues that transcend race, such as the apathy in the student body, and the lack of interest in cultures of the people with whom we interact. Black History Month is a catalyst for change of attitude. By educating the community about the accomplishments of eminent scholars, social and political leaders, writers, artists and scientists of African descent, the Mount community can simultaneously embrace the cultural education this month affords. This month the AACW encourages the Mount to "take a little drink from another culture; reach out, not expecting anything in return, and you'll gain more than you imagined." The world is a laboratory of discovery, not a black and white textbook, and the Mount is proud to have explorers of change as its finest scientists.



The Fitness Education Department recently sponsored a T-shirt designing contest for the up-coming Athenian Day festivities. Sam Xaymountry created the winning design, earning herself the \$50 prize. Participants of Athenian Day on March 22 will each receive a T-shirt with the design pictured above. If you are interested in participating, sign-up in the Fitness Center.



She encourages continued support of these clubs and encouragement of students to take advantage of the cultural atmosphere in which they live.

The cultural awareness that Black History Month will focus on will hopefully bring into light some of the issues confronting

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Japanese Ritual Welcomes Spring while Dispersing Evil Spirits

By Yuki Ito
Staff Writer

February 3rd is *Setsubun* in Japan. *Setsubun* means season, and *bun* means to separate. *Setsubun* is the day before the first day of spring in the Chinese calendar. We celebrate the change of the seasons from winter to spring on *Setsubun*.

We throw roasted soybeans in and around the house and yell "Out with the devil! In with fortune!" When we throw the roasted soybeans, we wish to drive away sickness and misfortune from the house and hope we will be happy. It is thought that evil

spirits will run away if we hurt them by throwing roasted soybeans.

After throwing the roasted soybeans, we eat the same number of soybeans as our age plus one more. According to the Chinese calendar, our age is one year older than it is in the Japanese solar calendar because Chinese people use the lunar calendar. We wish good health and happiness in the next season by eating the soybeans. The reason that we wish for good health by eating the roasted soybeans is

because the Japanese word *mame* also means health.

The ceremony of throwing the roasted soybeans is performed inside and outside the house and in shrines and temples. At the Imperial Palace, the Japanese emperor and his family perform the soybean-throwing ceremony. These days, other celebrities are often invited to perform the ceremony at shrines and temples. These performances are televised on some news programs around the country.

Johnson Controls

Continued from page 1

lation process in one way or another.

Chau Le, a first year student living on Brady first floor, stated that her door was found unlocked when she returned for the semester. "At 6:15 a.m. on the first day of school, a worker knocked on the door. My roommates and I got ready and went to class, leaving the door unlocked. It wasn't until two days after that that they got in our room." Le continued, "the worker was pretty nice and swept the floor afterwards. But it felt uncomfortable to walk by a group of workers all the time."

Maria Mahecha, a fourth year student on second floor Brady, found that her alarm clock was gone when she returned to school. She wrote an incident report the first day of school. Residence Life contacted her, asked for its value, and said they would get back to her. "I was surprised how quickly the Residence office responded," admitted Mahecha. Workers had to come in her room several times in the beginning of the semester. "They did not notify me. Once, a worker walked in my room without saying anything while I was standing in front of the door," explained Mahecha. For the most part, the workers were courteous. However, it was disruptive to have them drilling at 6 a.m. "Residence Life notified us of this, but didn't ask our consent," declared Mahecha.

Tami Purchase, a third year student also on second floor Brady, thought that, "the workers should have followed Male Visiting Hours, just like we do." She noticed that there were grease marks and "plaster crud" on her walls and the workers used all her Kleenex, leaving an empty box.

Rhonda Marine, a fourth year student on fifth floor Carondelet, found her rechargeable Craftsman flashlight was gone. She noticed later that her TV remote control was taken. She turned in an incident report to Residence Life. "My room was dirty, the windows were wide open, and pieces of drywall were on the floor. All the doors on my floor were unlocked and

opened when I returned. My toilet was dirty and the seat was up," explained Marine.

Marine's suitemate Eileen Jarvina, a third year student, discovered her TV antennae was stolen. She has not written an incident report.

Regina Pontes, a third year student also on fifth floor Carondelet, inquired during the end of fall semester whether the workers would need access to her closet. When she discovered they would not, she stored her camcorder in it and taped the door shut for Christmas break. When she returned for the spring semester, the tape had been removed from her closet door. It was not until the end of January that she went to look for her camcorder and found it was gone. She filed an incident report. "Residence Life was very nice. The situation was a concern for them," commented Pontes. "Karin said she would speak to Mari Wadsworth [Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs] and would get back to me. We don't know if it was Johnson Controls." In addition to this incident, Pontes witnessed three to four Johnson Controls workers taking food from the faculty cafeteria without paying.

Mishna Wong, a first year student living on fourth floor Carondelet, discovered that calls were made on her phone, her bathroom was dirty, and some of her food was eaten.

Samantha Xaymountry, a fourth year student on second floor Brady, found a dusty desk and dirty floor that she had to sweep and mop. The cables on her wall were exposed, and the long sheath meant to cover them was on her floor. "The hallway was messy and I almost tripped over some wires once. But the workers were nice and apologized for wires in the way," explained Xaymountry.

In spite of long work weeks, Johnson Controls was not able to finish until approximately Tuesday, January 21st. If a worker needed to have access to a room after this date, they were meant to be escorted by a student.

"I wasn't aware of the extent of disruption in the rooms," conceded Middleton. "The general feeling is that it is disturbing that people were in your room and moving things around. It was not a warm welcome back to the spring semester. I felt badly about it."

Smith related, "I want to be as open as I possibly can with Johnson Controls. I want them to take it seriously and also not mislead them. I want to back it [any incidents] up with written documentation from students." He referred to behaviors like leaving trash and not flushing the toilet as "stupid and inexcusable." He confirmed that the majority of the work crew was trying to do a good job under pressure. "Johnson Controls has apologized to me and is looking for a bad apple in the group," Smith continued.

In regards to workers using student telephones, Residence Life has taken copies of the phone bills and indicated to Johnson Controls to find the responsible employees. Lingua stated that the Mount's Administration recently met to discuss the cable installation. Middleton made Lingua aware of the state of the residence halls. Lingua wanted to respond and know what really happened.

"We wanted to let Johnson Controls know about our dissatisfaction. There were a few incidents which were very unacceptable," Lingua declared. "Overall, they did a good job." Lingua also related that Johnson Controls wants to find out what happened and make adjustments since, "their reputation is very important to them."

Lingua and Middleton are dealing with incidents case by case. "We asked for a formal apology from Johnson Controls. We take community life seriously; disruptions are intolerable," Lingua continued.

Middleton described the situation as a two-fold process. "It's loud, messy, inconvenient, and frustrating. But the benefits are up-to-date technology." Lingua added, "We are looking forward to closure. We will give appropriate compensation or an

Poll: What is the Most Romantic Thing that has Happened to You?

Recently *The Oracle* took a poll of Mount students and Mount guests at the February 7 Valentine's Dance, asking: "What is the most romantic thing that has happened to you?"

My friend came down from Santa Barbara the first week of my freshman year in college, made my lunch and gave me the most relaxing back rub. He even brought a suit to wear for dinner.

—Anonymous

My husband proposed marriage to me over a cup of coffee; at the bottom of the cup was my diamond engagement ring. I said "yes."

—Phyllis Cushing, second year student

On my one year anniversary my boyfriend sat me down and asked me to pick one of his hands. I chose one hand and he gave me a diamond ring, and in the other hand were diamond earrings.

—Christina Martinez, fourth year student

On my first date with a guy he cooked dinner for me, and we went for a walk on the pier after a movie.

—Jenelle Benoit, second year student

I was at a club, and my boyfriend happened to be there. Well, this guy came up to me and gave me a single red rose. My boyfriend saw this; when he came back he took the rose and gave me 40 roses.

—Lisa J. Coleman, third year student

For Christmas I really wanted to get a Beanie Baby stuffed animal, and when I woke up Christmas morning, there were two Beanie Babies in my stocking from Santa Claus—my boyfriend.

—Cristina Solis, third year student

On my two year anniversary with my boyfriend, he totally surprised me by giving me a ring.

—Claudia Tenorio, fourth year student

Being proposed to at Catalina at sunset by my fiancé.

—Krisianna Trager-Straw, fourth year student

On a camping trip he made us a fire and we just cuddled there by the fire, looked at the stars and talked 'til all hours of the night.

—Lynn DeFranco

The day we were walking across USC at night, we entered a small chapel on the campus and recited our own personal vow to each other, pledging our mutual love.

—Juana Gonzales and Gustavo Collazo, third year students

My girlfriend came over and took care of me while I was sick—stayed the entire time.

—Robert Campbell, third year LMU student

I was given one white rose!

—Charlie Ruiz, third year student

A guy once told me: "You're beautiful when you cry, but you're amazing when you smile."

—Jennifer

A guy I met during vacation in L.A. decided to fly me out to see him again, only two months after we met. We had days in the sun...hammock, strawberries. He was sooo sweet. (I was living in Milwaukee at the time)

—Ruth Shaer, third year student

My boyfriend had his whole glee club serenade me when I least expected it. Good looking men dressed in suits, serenading me—How romantic!

—Pamela Monzon, third year student

apology to students [for property damage or theft]."

Smith declared that he did not want any bad experiences to overshadow the tremendous potential of this new technology. "I feel badly if anything is bothering the students," he said. Smith expects that the phone and

data systems will be in place both on the Doheny and Chalon campuses by the 18th of February. Middleton finally declared, "It is exciting to be diving into technology. We will not be behind much longer." Next Fall, students will be able to take advantage of the technologies.

Ask Athena: Where to Search for a Mate and the Importance of Being an Assertive Person

By Athena

Goddess of War and Wisdom,
and the Mount mascot

Q: Where can I find my future husband?

A: I have noticed that when you are least expecting something, it seems to turn up. When you are busy doing other things in your life, many more people and opportunities enter into it. In regards to a husband, are you interested in finding someone you can eventually marry or are you looking to marry as soon as possible? I would advise waiting until you are absolutely certain you have a great relationship you would like to make more permanent. You can find a boyfriend almost any-



where. It is up to you where you want to look. Where do you hang out? Where do you think your potential mate would spend his time? Don't limit yourself or your expectations of a certain "type" of guy. On the other hand, don't go places you would never go to. You won't likely end up meeting the guy

for you in a place you would not like to spend time at. Being yourself is much more attractive than luring men in with schemes like those of the Sirens. In the meantime, don't obsess over finding a match. Get busy with

your own life — doing what you love. The guy for you will surely come around.

Q: When I'm around certain people I cannot be assertive. I'm intimidated. When my new friend found out we had the same class, she said, "When you read the chapter, give me the book so I can read it — tell me when you're finished." The thing is I never offered her my book and she never asked. I feel she will start to have a grudge if I say "no." Athena, help me.

A: Who are those certain people you are intimidated by? What qualities do they have that make you feel nervous? Perhaps you feel shy around people who are pushy. If this is true, realize that their rudeness is their problem, not yours. Being a bully,

whether subtle or blunt, is a sign of poor self-esteem and a desire to fill some sort of emptiness. You can't be the one to fill it by submitting to their rude requests because then you won't be supporting yourself. On the other hand, if you seem to be intimidated by people who are self-confident, then take a cue from them and develop your own self-confidence. It is important to recognize who you truly are — to acknowledge that you are a valuable person. Develop respect for yourself. It seems you have trouble saying no to requests you are not comfortable with. Your time is important. Practice saying "no" to people for those little things you don't have time for. It is okay to say "no," even to friends. They will respect you for respecting your-

self. If your new friend hasn't brought up the topic of borrowing your book since the first time, you can probably forget about it. It may not be worth bringing it up again. If she brings it up, and you don't want to lend her the book, explain that you are not in the habit of lending your books because you need to get to them at any time. You have my permission to give an excuse like, "Once, a friend of mine lost an expensive text book I lent her, and now I'm protective of my stuff." Suggest that she buy her own book or photocopy from the teacher or another classmate. Hera may have ordered everyone around, but she was a goddess and your friend isn't. Stick to your convictions. If you don't, people will take advantage of you.

Star Wars

See It Again for the First Time

By Alessandra Brophy
Staff Writer

"See it again for the first time." This is the message TV commercials and movie trailers have been promoting for the past several weeks in an attempt to hype the return of the *Star Wars* Trilogy to the big screen. *Star Wars* director and producer, George Lucas, rereleased the film in order to introduce it to a new generation and to commence the promotion of the first *Star Wars* prequel which will be released in 1999.

Though it has been 20 years since *Star Wars* was released, the movie has lost none of its appeal. With the exception of a few but-

terfly collars, Luke Skywalker's (Mark Hamill) 70's haircut, and Princess Leia's (Carrie Fischer) cinnamon bun shaped hair, the movie still looks modern.

Star Wars centers around Luke Skywalker and his bank of rebel friends—Han Solo, Chewbacca, Princess Leia, C-3PO, R2D2, and the eternally wise Obi-Wan Kenobi. During the course of the movie they discover the Force, and attempt to stop the evil Darth Vader from destroying peace in the universe.

Lucas spent over \$10 million restoring *Star Wars*—*The Special Edition*, and the money

was well spent. The new version of *Star Wars* contains four and a half minutes of new film footage, the sound has been digitally remastered, the film negatives have been cleaned, and new special effects have been added to the final battle scenes.

There is simply no comparison between watching *Star Wars* in a movie theatre and watching it on television. With so many wide shots and special effects, seeing *Star Wars* at home does not do the movie justice. So take that student ID, pay your five dollars, and see it again for the first time.

Letter to the Editor

Involvement in community and college important

First, I would like to congratulate you and your staff for producing a more comprehensive newspaper this year. The articles included in the January edition were particularly well written and interesting.

Second, I would like to comment on Varsana Staszak's article ("Does Apathy Characterize the Mount?"). While I think that involvement in campus activities can be rewarding, I would like to suggest to those students who seek diverse challenges and great rewards to participate in local community groups. Many Mount women come from neighborhoods that are totally unlike

Brentwood. I grew up in Carson, a suburb twenty miles from downtown Los Angeles. Although I lived in the dorms for three years, I have never forgotten where I really come from. My city is a mixture of ethnicities: African-American, Latino, and Pacific Islander. I've found that my work with grass-roots community groups is a great way to contribute to my community, my home. I strongly believe that activism and leadership skills begin at our roots.

I invite students who are interested in working with both the Mount community and the City of Los Angeles to TAKE BACK THE NIGHT committee. Bernadette Lee and other students are planning a rally and

march to educate the community to issues of personal safety, rape awareness, and violence prevention. We hope that all Doheny and Chalon students will help us celebrate Women's Herstory Month by coming to the event in March. Interested students should call (310) 838-2459.

Sincerely,
Andrea Graybehl

Get Involved!!
Write for the student newspaper. Meetings every Tuesday and Thursday 6:30-7:30 in the Student Activities Conference Room

The Oracle

of Mount St. Mary's College

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The opinions expressed in signed columns and letters are the author's, not necessarily the views of the staff or Mount St. Mary's College. Unsigned columns do reflect the shared view of *The Oracle* staff. *The Oracle* welcomes articles and contributions by students, faculty, staff and alumni. *The Oracle* reserves the right to reject or edit all submissions. Letters to the Editor are strongly encouraged. All correspondence to *The Oracle* should be addressed to: *The Oracle*, Box 52, 12001 Chalon Road, Los Angeles, CA 90049. Sorry, but unsigned letters will not be printed.

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600 college students reached 10,000 in 3 semesters!

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- Guide Discussions on Diversity in nearby High Schools or Middle Schools (50 minutes once a week for 8 weeks)
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Mt. St. Mary's College
Los Angeles (near UCLA)
12 - 6 p.m.

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**PEOPLE FOR
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Your Voice Against Intolerance

Chalon Student News

Resident Assistant Selection is here! Join the Residence Life Team by becoming a '97-'98 RA. Applications are available in Residence Life, Student Activities, and Student Affairs on Monday, February 10th. Apply now m- it is your turn to step up to the plate!

This is your opportunity to participate in Mount St. Mary's first annual fitness exhibition!!! Dance, martial arts, bodybuilding, gymnastics ... team, individual or couples routines welcome and encouraged. Mandatory meeting for all interested students, staff and faculty: Thursday, February 6th at 7:00 p.m. in the Lecture Hall.

The Spring Formal is Friday, March 14 in Universal City. The Spring Formal committee is meeting to plan this event: *Some Enchanted Evening*. Join us and be a part of making this event the best formal ever! Next meeting: Tuesday, February 18, 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. in the Student Activities Conference Room. Hope to see you there!

Chalon clubs and organizations: The Budget Review Board funding proposals are due TODAY: February 14th in the Student Activities Office. If you have an event planned for this semester and need some additional funding, turn in a proposal TODAY! Forms were placed in your club boxes.

February is Black History Month!

*Come see the movie inspired by Alice Walker's novel and nominated for 11 Academy Awards, including Best Picture and Whoopi Goldberg for Best Actress. The Color Purple, Tuesday, February 25, at 7:30 p.m. in the Lecture Hall.

*The African Marketplace is back! If you missed this event last year, mark your calendar so you do not miss it again: Wednesday, February 26 from 10:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Circle (weather permitting).

*Step Show presentation: Friday, February 28 at noon. If you know what a step show is, we know you will want to come. If you have never seen an historically black Greek organization perform a step show, then now is your chance! Not to be missed!! Thanks in advance for your support of these Black History Month events.

ATTENTION CLUB LEADERS: Next Interclub Council (ICC) meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 18 at 6:00 p.m. in the Campus Center. There will be vital information about club elections and officer transitions. Every club needs to select/elect new officers for 1997-98 BEFORE April 17th, the date of the Student Activities Reception. Come to this ICC meeting for pointers on successful elections and smooth transitions.

Athenians, phone home! Call and invite your families to FAMILY DAY! This event, sponsored by ASB, promises to be a huge success BUT only if your family comes! The committee is planning a carnival, a complimentary lunch with a professional improvisational group as entertainment, tours of the labs, library, residence halls, art gallery, and an afternoon of fun in the sun. That evening, your families are welcome to join us for the final performance of Multicultural Night (formerly known as Spring Sing). Want to be involved in the planning? Come to a Family Day committee meeting. Stop by the Student Activities Office for more information.

Congratulations to the 60 Mount students, faculty and staff going to the Kings vs. Mighty Ducks hockey game! This is such a great turnout — ASB had no idea we had so many hockey fans here! Just a reminder, if you are signed up for transportation: the bus leaves at 5:30 p.m. on February 20th. Have fun!

March is Women's History Month. Clubs and organizations: check your boxes in the Student Activities Office for more information about how to sponsor a table for the Women's History Fair on Thursday, March 13th, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Circle. Celebrate women! Be creative! RSVP sheets due by February 28th.

Can you believe it is time to start thinking about ASB elections again?? Applications for candidacy will be available on February 28th. Pick one up before you leave for spring break. Available in the Student Activities Office, Residence Desk and Student Affairs Office (H200). Check out the positions and find out details on the election process at one of the information sessions. All sessions in Hannon Parlor:

Tuesday, February 25, 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday, February 26, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, February 27, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Friday, February 28, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Candidates are REQUIRED to attend one of these information sessions. Get involved, make a difference!

INVITED SPEAKER: Monika Hellwig, Executive Director of the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities, will speak in the Little Theater on February 26, from 4:40 to 6:00 p.m. She will address the question: Where are religious colleges headed in the next millennium?

Students, faculty and staff: Please remember that when you come to the Chalon campus, you are driving through a residential neighborhood. Please drive up Norman Place when driving to campus and take a right out of the driveway to reach Bundy Drive when leaving campus. Watch the posted speed limits: 25 mph on Norman and 30 mph on Bundy.

Financial Aid forms available now in the Financial Aid Office. Cal Grant deadline is March 2, 1997.

Campus Ministry: There will be no 6:00 p.m. Mass on Sunday, February 16, 1997, due to the college holiday.

Doheny Happenings

From Student Affairs (Chalon):

An information session for students interested in transferring to Chalon will be held on Thursday, February 20, 1997 at 7:00 p.m. in Donahue Center. Current Chalon students who transferred from Doheny will talk about the challenges, opportunities, and experiences associated with their transfer. A slid show will also be presented. Refreshments will be served. This information session is open to all Doheny students.

Campus Ministry is inviting the first grade from St. Vincent's/ECE to mak Valentine's Day cards for the inmates at Juvenile hall. We are asking for colunteers to help the children with their art at 2:00 p.m. in the Donohue Center. Please come and participate. Sign up on the Campus Ministry Board.

Chalon Transfers: VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Chalon transfer forms are available in the Advisement Center now. Please observe the following steps:

1. Pick up your Transfer form TODAY!
2. Make an appointment with your advisor to check that you have 24 transferable units and 2.25 GPA. Ask your advisor to sign the copy.
3. Make an appointment with the Registrar, who will readjust your GPA after subtracting your nontransferable units or leave your form in the Chalon transfer box in the Registrar's Office.
4. If you are planning to be a Liberal Studies major at Chalon, you need to get the signature of Sister Kieran Vaughan, the Coordinate or the Liberal Studies major. If you plan to be a Nursing major, you need to get the signature of Dr. Majorie Dobratz, Chaor of the Nursing Department.
5. Take your form to Sister Carol Brong, who will verify that you have passed all of the proficiency tests.
6. Bring your form to Sister Therese in the Advisement Center
7. Please do these steps in the above order Good Luck!

If you are planning to transfer to Chalon for Fall '97 and have a GPA of 3.0 or above, ask your advisor for a Chalon Transfer Award application. This award can provide substantial financial assistance and may be renewed if you are enrolled full-time and maintain a minimum 2.75 GPA after transferring.

SPANISH PROFICIENCY TEST: The Spanish Proficiency test for Spring semester will be given February 19 and 20 in Room 206B from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. You will find a sign-up sheet ion the door of Office 2 in Building 4 near the Lecture Hall. All Liberal Arts students must either pass this test for take SPA 1 and 2, unless they received Advanced Placement credits in Spanish language. Please see Sister Therese if you have any questions.

FROM THE BUSINESS OFFICE:

To those sudents who are on the Federal Work Program Payment Schedule, some of the payment dates fall on a holiday. Therefore, here are the revised payment due dates:

Payment Date	Revised Payment Date
2/17	2/14 or 2/18
3/3	2/28
3/31	4/1

If you have any questions, please call the Business Office at Ext. 2222. We apologize for any inconvenience we have caused you.

HURRY! HURRY! HURRY! Athenian Day is coming: don't miss this great event ... get together with your friends and create a team ... join in the fun ... see you there!

When: March 22, 1997

Teams: 6-8 people

Cost: \$30 per team

Deadline: Sign up by FEBRUARY 28 in the Fitness Center (x2155)

MOUNT NEWS FOR BOTH CAMPUSES

Become a part of Presdent Clinton's National Service Program: the College Urban Fellows. Requirements: full- or part-time college student; interest in and commitment to community service; experience in working with groups, in building community and/or in serving school-age youth. Information: paid positions start at \$5.00/hour; will receive training in service-learning. Please contact Nerina Tribble at (310) 954-4350 or applications can be picked up in Building 4, Office #1 at Doheny or the Leadership Office at Chalon (loated on Brady Patio).

Donate a Patch to Create a Quilt for Siena Day

Make certain that you are remembered at the Mount for decades to come by donating a piece of cloth to quilts that will be created for each campus of Mount St. Mary's College in preparation for Siena Day 1997.

Siena Day, an annual all-college event at the Doheny campus that is both festive and educational, wil take place on March 19. The deadline for the patches is Friday, February 14th - TODAY!

The Siena Day theme is "Quilting our History," and activities will illustrate how women have used quilting to communicate or commemorate political beliefs, historic events and family celebrations throughout history.

Information session for the Associate Degree programs in Nursing, Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy are scheduled for February 24, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. in the Donohue Center at the Doheny Campus.

Information session for the Master's Degree programs in Education, Counseling Psychology and Religious Studies are scheduled for March 12th in the Donohue Center at the Doheny Campus.

**Don't Miss
The Inside
of THIS
issue!!**

**Interested in other
ways to cure your
ills?
Check out
the scoop...Page 2**

**Money shortage?
Find out what to do
in L.A. for less than
\$5...Page 3.**

**ASB Candidates want
your vote! Read their
election statements on
Page 6.**

**Get Informed!
Mount News for
both campuses can
be found on Page 8.**

The Oracle

of Mount St. Mary's College

March 21, 1997

Volume 2

Number 7

Residence Life at Doheny Faces Changes

By Sonia J. Cortez
Staff Writer

What is life on the Doheny campus really like? Are the young women of Doheny having a positive experience living on campus? Doheny residents and staff were asked to share their feelings about the Doheny community.

One major difference this year is the new Residence Life Director, Alex Sosa. Sosa began her work for the Mount community seven years ago on the Chalon campus as the Residence Life director. During the summer of '96, Sosa was offered the position of Residence Life director at Doheny.

Sosa was asked about the changes that have taken place since her arrival and she excitedly responded, "The Resident Council just started at Doheny. We have taken only baby steps but those baby steps are very important ones."

One change that has

occurred is the new male visiting hour policy. "Male visiting hours have been adjusted because the girls felt very strong about it. They wanted to have the same policy as Chalon and



Alex Sosa, New Director of Residence Life at Doheny (Photo by Morria Demby)

they got it," Sosa explains.

Sosa believes that this small change has created confidence in students so that they feel they do

have the power to make a difference. Sosa also explained that through the development of the RC's new constitution, the residents will have advantages, as well as organization and structure. "With the constitution, the girls can begin to exercise their rights. They can petition and vote on issues that are important to them," expressed Sosa.

When asked what differences she saw between both campuses, Sosa responded, "Doheny and Chalon are two separate communities with two different heartbeats. Both communities have different needs that reflect each campus."

Sosa believes that there are many assumptions that both campuses have about each other and when asked what can be done to improve the inter-campus relationships, Doheny Residence Life

continued on page 7

Future Club Hopes to Address Homosexuality

By Alessandra Brophy
Staff Writer

There may be a new club coming to the Mount next year. Last semester there was an attempt to create a club for homosexuals and bisexuals on campus, but due to a lack of student participation, the club has yet to become active.

Christina Cox, a first year student who is organizing the club, believes part of the problem is, "People are afraid to be known and to have their name on something, especially if it is controversial." The club would be open to everyone, and rather than being an advocacy group, the club would be information oriented. Speakers would discuss and provide information on issues such as homophobia and the Catholic Church's view on homosexual relationships. Cox is currently working on a constitution and hopes that more students will want to join the club. She said, "I am willing to run the club but I can't do it alone. It's difficult to have a club with only eight people."

When asked how they felt

about having a club for homosexuals and bisexuals on campus, most students responded positively. Sabrina Machaca, a fourth year student, said, "There seemed to be a lot of support for National Coming Out Day and I don't think the students would mind having that kind of club on campus." Ginger Garcia, a third year student, said, "I have no problem with it as long as it is not forced upon people. The members of the club should take it into consideration that some people are going to be offended because of the fact that this is a Catholic school." Cox responded by saying, "People should not be hiding behind the issue just because the Mount is a Catholic school. Yvonne Lira, a fourth year student, believes that students at the Mount are apathetic and doubts the club will ever become active. She stated, "The participation rate at this school is so low. I don't know

Future Club

continued on page 7

Examining Security on the Doheny Campus

By Sonia J. Cortez
Staff Writer

Is safety a concern on the Doheny campus? The Doheny campus is located in the downtown area which is usually associated with gangs and violence. So the question for concerned students and staff is whether or not there is sufficient security.

Sister Edward Mary Zerwekh, who is in charge of security on the Doheny campus, confidently expressed that she feels very safe because of the guards on campus, as well as USC's security, which is available to Mount students, and the presence of the Los Angeles Police Department. "I feel very safe but I am always alert. I would not recommend anyone to walk out to Figueroa late at night. I would not recommend anyone to walk around Santa Monica or Beverly Hills at night either," Sister Edward states.

Sister Edward also explained that every precaution is taken to ensure the safety of Doheny residents. "We have put more lighting around campus so it will feel safer to walk around campus at night," explained Sister Edward.

Sister Edward also stated that if students do not feel safe walking around, there are guards available to escort anyone at all times. "The girls feel free to call them and if there is an emergency the guards carry pagers. Each classroom also has the number in case students need to use it," Sister Edward states.

When asked about possible concerns regarding the neighborhood, Sister Edward proudly answered, "The college has been

Doheny Security

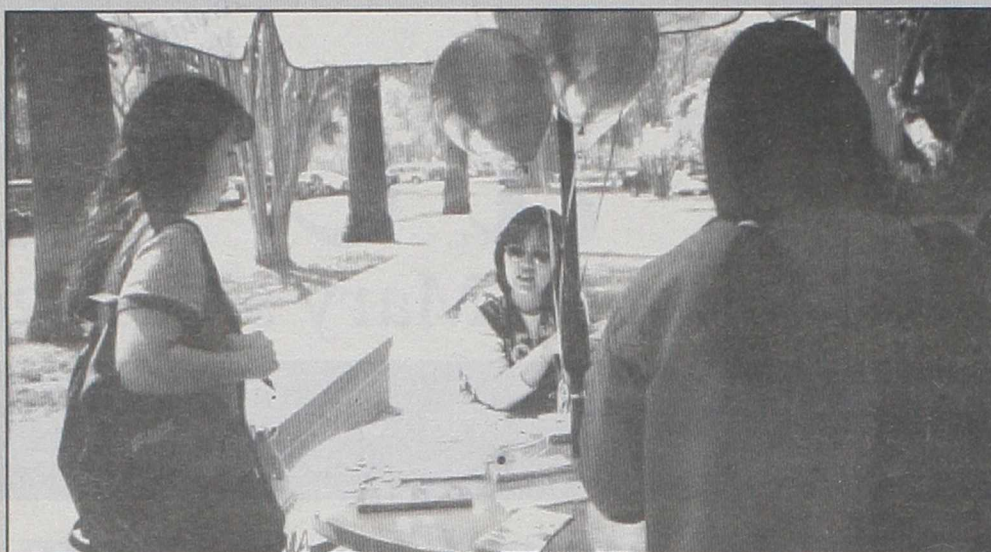
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Students Celebrate Women



On March 13 from 11:00 to 2:00 in the Circle at Chalon, and from 4:00 to 6:00 in the Ahmanson Commons at Doheny, Women's History Month was celebrated. Numerous on campus clubs and organizations, including the Vietnamese Student Association as pictured above, set up tables with information and goods to sell all relating to women. Outside groups were also present at the Women's History Fair including The Feminist Majority, Women Against Gun Violence and Dutton's Books. More events are to follow for the month of March, focused on the issues women face. (Photo by Moria Demby)

Women's Health Fair



The Doheny Campus held a Women's Health Fair on March 12, in the Ahmanson Commons. The Fair offered information about important women's health issues including the benefits of good nutrition, the effects of smoking, and the importance of performing monthly breast exams for one's self. In addition, instructions of how to perform such an exam and what to look for were given. (Photo by Moria Demby)

Examining Alternative Medicine

By Varsana Staszak
Assistant Editor

When Bob Dole's voice threatened to give out during his 96-hour campaigning marathon just before last fall's presidential election, he sought relief by drinking Traditional Medicinals' Throat Coat, an herb tea made from slippery elm. President Clinton, well known for a voice given to hoarseness, drinks it too.

Alternative health care encompasses herbs, nutrition, homeopathic medicine, massage, Chinese medicine, and Ayurvedic medicine. Naturopathic medicine is a century-old discipline that incorporates these practices in order to achieve physical and emotional balance. Homeopathic medicine is the practice of using minute amounts of natural plant and animal substances to cure disease. Ayurvedic medicine is one of the world's oldest systems of natural healing from India, which incorporates physical healing, diet, herbs, and massage or bodywork. The goal of Ayurveda is to achieve physical, mental and spiritual balance and harmony.

There is an increasing openness and acceptance of alternative, or non-traditional, medicines in the United States. For instance, there are currently 11,000 sites listed under 'alternative medicine' on the World Wide Web. Herb sales in the U.S. have jumped 20 percent to 25 percent annually in recent years and now total \$2 billion per year. Consumers are driving this boom because they are looking for alternatives to over-the-counter drugs, which often have negative side effects. For example, herbal medicines soothe nerves without the side effects of pharmaceutical sedatives.

In Germany, about 70 percent of general medical practitioners prescribe herbal remedies regularly to their patients. An independent division of the German federal health agency, called Commission E, has evaluated the safety and effectiveness of almost 300 herbs and published the information for consumers and doctors alike. The American Botanical Council, a nonprofit research and educational group in Austin, Texas, has obtained this information and will publish it later this year.

In 1996, three states passed legislation licensing naturopathic physicians, bringing the total number of states with naturopathic licensure to 11. Approximately 1,000 licensed naturopathic physicians currently practice in the United States. While naturopathic physicians have an educational background similar to that of conventional M.D.s, they also take extensive coursework in nutrition, herbal medicine, homeopathy, psychology, massage and either Chinese or Ayurvedic medicine.

In 1994, the National Institutes of Health awarded Bastyr University, an accredited school of naturopathic medicine, a prestigious \$840,000 fed-

eral grant to establish a center for research in HIV/AIDS. NIH selected Bastyr over more than 30 mainstream institutions, including UCLA, Harvard, and Columbia.

According to Karin Horgan Sullivan, Editor of *Natural Remedies* magazine, "The world of medicine is changing rapidly these days. With the explosion of interest in alternative, or complementary therapies, there are more health care choices than ever before — and for that reason consumers also have a greater need than ever to be well-informed about all the options that are available."

Arleen Fernandez, R.N., M.S.N., and the Director of Health Services at the Mount, finds that, "Health care providers have to be very aware of different methods...in the care they provide. From listening to other physicians, more are trying to include things found in the health store." She emphasized the importance of research in verifying the benefits of alternative medicine.

Fernandez also mentioned that traditional medicine may have more contraindications that outweigh the benefits. However, she noted that traditional medicine is supported by research and established guidelines, as well as the application of the scientific method.

The UCLA Center for East-West Medicine manages a clinic, an education program, information and referral services, and a research program. Elaine Pang, M.A., M.P.H., and a Certified Health Specialist, is the center's Education Program Coordinator. She believes that, "There is definitely a trend toward alternative medicine. Advocates against alternative methods are softening and the U.S. government is more open. Grants are increasing year after year for research. The public and government are more accepting." In fact, Dr. Ka Kit Hui, the Director of the center, is a policy consultant on herbal remedies for the NIH.

The center's clinic is run at UCLA School of Medicine. Patients have a choice of either eastern or western medical treatments or a combination of both. The clinic doctors, with medical degrees from China and the United States, specialize in acupuncture, acupressure, and herbal remedies. The center does not provide herbs, rather doctors act as herbal consultants. They also use a method known as a trigger point injection, in which a medication or placebo is injected into special meridian points in the body to stimulate these areas. This is especially effective for people with pain.

Alternative Medicine

Continued on Page 7

Fashion Trends of Mount Students

Joan Abiko Brantley
Staff Writer

Fashion, make-up, and hair-do's seem to occupy many women's attention in today's society. They spend numerous amounts of money on extending their wardrobe, making themselves over, etc. One might assume at a predominately women's college like the Mount, that students would play up to the stereotype of being fashionable in class. However, one may bring an old adage to mind, "Comfort before appearance!"

There are many reasons why people dress the way they do. Fashion reflects the personality and the social class of people. Here at the Mount the reasons range from having no time to get all dressed up, being comfortable in certain clothes, or there being no need to get all dressed up for class. There is no problem with not being dressed up nicely but the differences in styles amongst Mount students are striking. The difference is most obvious between commuters and residents.

On a typical day, a commuter student will come to class presentable with make-up, a nice hair-do, and a stylish clothing ensemble. In contrast, a resident student, will be present donning a tee shirt, sweats, and no make-up. The most probable reason why commuters take time to get dressed up is that the commute to campus allows more room for public exposure. For a resident student, the only exposure they

will get is from other residents, classmates, campus staff and faculty. They have no need to worry about how the public will view them.

But what if the Mount was of a larger population and size, located in another area and admitted more male students? Would the female resident students change their dressing habits? Liane Martinez, a first year resident student comments, "The way that I dress depends on how I feel!" Veronica Flores, a second year resident student remarks, "I dress to impress myself and not others. I make sure that my hair is combed and not as if I was going to a party." Speaking on a commuter's behalf, Maria San Diego, a second year student says, "I dress up to class only because I have to go to work afterwards. But I would rather come in shorts."

The benefit of receiving a great education without stressing over what clothes to wear for the day, how they appear to others and how to attract the opposite sex, is what one can receive at Mount Saint Mary's. This way they can concentrate on more important things like that soon due term paper, that upcoming test, next year's financial aid and studying. There are more important things in life than looking good and that is what the relaxed, laid-back style of the student body here at the Mount seems to convey.

News Briefs:

-Sister Karen M. Kennelly has been elected to the Board of Directors of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities for 1997-98. She was elected by the NAICU member presidents from Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming, to represent them on the association's 47-member board for a three-year term.

-Board of Trustees member Thomas E. Larkin Jr. has been retained by the Mount for a fourth term. The 23-member board, comprised of business, professional, and community leaders, is the key governing body of the Mount.

Currently President of Trust Company of the West, Larkin is also vice chairman of TCW Asset Management Company and chairman of TCW Funds Management, Inc. He serves as board member and officer of various civic and professional associations, including the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, Children's Hospital of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and the Los Angeles Music Center Operating Company.

-Diabetes hits Hispanics at an earlier age and more often than other ethnic groups. Diabetes occurs in adult Hispanics two-three times more often than in whites. Complications can be prevented through early detection. It is suggested that Hispanics over 35 be tested for this disease.

The Oracle regrets a mistake in the article "The Demands of the Nursing Program" in the February 28, 1997, issue. There are more than 3 BSN programs in California, in contrast to what we reported. Again, we apologize.

Reflections on Juvenile Hall

One Student Learns the Value of an Open Mind

By Monica Becerra
Contributing Writer

The last Sunday of every month I am given the opportunity to grow as an individual. Visiting Juvenile Hall started as a mere curiosity. I had always wanted to know what detention centers and jails looked like. I went with the intention to see what it was like to be "locked up." I honestly never thought my visit would be valuable to anyone, but I soon found that my assumption was not true.

I clearly remember my first day. The morning was warm and bright. It seemed like the Lord had created a perfect day for my

first experience. As I stepped into what seemed to be a different and forbidden world, I began to feel uneasy. All of a sudden the bright day was covered by menacing gray clouds. But somehow I found compassion within my heart, and I dismissed all my prejudice. For many years I thought it was right to keep lives stored in jail cells, until I saw for myself what it was like to see youthful lives at the mercy of unyielding edict.

I gathered all my strength from every inch of my body and set as a goal to bring a ray of

light to at least one person. I sat surrounded by a group of young and doubtful teens, and I did nothing but smile. Somehow this small act broke the walls of silence and ignited a conversation. I made it clear that no one should be wrongfully judged or criticized by what he or she reveals during our time together as a group. It would be a sort of neutral environment in which all could speak peacefully and respectfully. I did not doubt myself for what I was doing. All I had to use was my "special sensitivity" and soon everything fell

into place. Questions were asked and answered. We learned about each other. I learned about myself.

I was a tolerant and loving person who understood and was able to see through their eyes the pain and grief that lay inside. Interpersonal intelligence has best described me. However, this experience tested my intelligence because of my preconceived ideas, and gave me positive results. I discovered how valuable it is to me that I motivate and understand people regardless of who they may be.

What To Do With Five Dollars in Los Angeles

By Aisling McGuckin
Staff Writer

If you are the type of person who fastidiously stockpiles little ketchup packages from McDonald's or whose ears prick up at the mention of the word 'sale', then this article is for you! Even if you are not an avid bargain hunter, everyone appreciates saving a buck or two. Los Angeles is an expensive place, and it takes a careful eye to assure that you do not get taken for a ride when planning some fun. Let's admit it, there is a bit of a tightwad in all of us.

Los Angeles is a great place for outdoor activities because of the long warm season. In the spring there are flora and fauna in abundance dying for attention. Now is the time to take that walk, bike ride or hike you have been putting off since September. There are many parks in L.A. which specialize in providing a safe, clean environment for outdoor recreation. Griffith Park, Echo Park, El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historic Monument and State Parks such as Topanga, Santa Monica and Will Rogers provide a variety of settings in which to enjoy the outdoors. Make sure you go out into the wild well-protected from the sun and with plenty of water. Water is in scarce supply and expensive here, but most grocery stores carry gallons of water for as low as \$.75. Take one back to the refrigerator and re-use that water bottle. Be proud that you are saving money and also safeguarding the environment.

Another inexpensive pastime is to visit a museum. Though most people consider Los Angeles a mecca of popular culture and the epicenter of the movie industry, the city also offers a cornucopia of rich cul-

ture. The following is a selection of museums which have student rates of five dollars and under.

The Museum of Tolerance	\$5
Los Angeles County Museum of Art	\$4
Huntington Library, Art Collections and Gardens	\$4
The Armand Hammer Museum of Art	\$3
Japanese American National Museum	\$3
The Hollywood Studio Museum	\$3
Southwest Museum	\$3
The J. Paul Getty Museum	Free
California African American Museum	Free
Museum of African-American Art	Free

(For a complete list of L.A. attractions or for more information, call the L.A. Convention and Visitors Bureau (213) 624-7300.)

This list could go on for pages, so your best bet is to call the Visitors Bureau and order some free information.

If museums don't excite your interest, there are many other alternatives to spending gross amounts of money on a day filled with unmemorable activities. There are places to walk around outside, touring on foot various parts of the city. Downtown, Hollywood, Little Tokyo and Chinatown are just a few enticing parts of town. The Farmers' Market, the Venice Boardwalk, Third Street Promenade, Santa Monica Pier and Pacific Park also provide an interesting array of sights, sounds and smells. There are a number of little known treasures in the city, such as the Watts Towers of Simon Rodia or the Korean Friendship Bell, the largest bell in the U.S. Whatever your taste, there is something to satiate the appetite of both the native and the newcomer in L.A.

If you are one of the fortunate people who owns a car, you may be able to plan a day out for

less than \$5, but you may have to pick up the tab for expensive parking. An alternative to driving is to take the MTA, which on most routes picks up every 20 minutes. This is a relatively inexpensive way to get around, since to get on is \$1.60 and every transfer is \$.25. Other public transportation systems in the city are the Underground in the Downtown area, and DASH in and around the Chinatown, Little Tokyo and shopping districts. These are effective ways to traverse the city with little to no expense.

Another expense people encounter in L.A. are the outrageous prices for food. I am determined that anything which will be digested in twenty minutes should not cost more than four dollars. Therefore, one way to cope with food expenditures is to buy in bulk. For instance, picnicking with bagels or French bread, a hunk of cheese, fruit and vegetables and some water is much more cost-efficient than ordering prepared food. Another alternative is to pack a lunch in the cafeteria and bring it with you. If you get a hankering for a late-night latte, instead of heading down to Starbucks, invest in some coffee, half-and-half, a whisk and make

your own.

Now, if there hasn't been anything yet which has really caught your eye, don't give up. Though these are some alternatives to spending a fortune, they shouldn't take the place of a night out on the town. They are just a way to make the most of your paycheck, so that when you do go out, you enjoy yourself.

A few last-minute ideas: borrow movies from the library rather than going out. Check out some street performers or outdoor concerts, usually free at area museums. Take a romantic stroll through a botanical garden with your beau. Do some serious stargazing, architecture appreciating, or movie star sighting using a guide from the library or by asking around. Check out area libraries, especially UCLA's historic libraries or the Los Angeles Public Library. TV tapings are also free and are fun with a group of pals. Volunteer work, people watching, visiting churches and historic missions are all viable alternatives to paying for entertainment.

Just remember, you have the right to a good time more than once or twice a month. It is your choice; get creative and do something fun. If all else fails, there's always the exquisite beach sunsets to lift your spirits.



Aisling McGuckin enjoying a delightfully free sunset at the beach. (Photo attributed to Aisling McGuckin)

"Scholarly Women of the Mount" Trivia Contest

On March 13th, the Learning Center held a trivia contest during the Women's History Fair at the Chalon campus. Here are the winners of the three quizzes issued and answers to a few trivia questions.

Trivia Contest #1 Winner:
Donna Erfe
Trivia Contest #2 Winner:
Lorie Correa
Trivia Contest #3 Winner:
Dorothy Marquez

- A French and English major from Pasco, WA whose first job was as a proofreader for her hometown newspaper. (Sr. Mary Williams)
- A Psychology major & former bartender from Stamford, CT who attended every Kings home game during 1988-89. (Susan Fread)
- A former bus driver & Psychology major who thinks the National Anthem should be "Take Me Out to the Ballgame." (Lisa Nightingale)
- An English major from Boulder, CO who would trade lives with an anchorite living in West Midlands, England in 1228 A.D. (Anne Eggebroten)
- Chicago-born MSMC alumna and mother of 3 MSMC Alumnae and 1 current MSMC student. (Jeanne Ruiz)
- An English major and former elementary school teacher from Chicago, IL who is fascinated by weather patterns. (Marie Egan)
- From Belmont, MA, a Biology major who first majored in Sanskrit and Indian History and became a mother her junior year. (Jean Harrison)
- An English Literature major from Woodfield, NJ who races yachts in her spare time. (Dr. Cynthia Wederich)
- An English major from Buckhannon, WV whose great loves are William Faulkner and Mick Jagger. (Dr. Millie Kidd)
- A current COSA officer and Liberal Studies major whose first job was at K-Mart. (Monica Ramos)
- An Accounting major from San Ramon who was once a Carl's Jr. hostess. (Janice Reiboldt)
- A History major from Oakland whose favorite hobby is ballroom dancing. (Sr. Nancy Bowden)
- An English major and former 6th grade teacher who was born in the boys' dorm at Pepperdine University (her parents were dorm parents). (Mary Jane Ross)

A Cup of Daily Brew

By Pamela Mustin
Staff Writer

A long, deep inhale of the distinct aroma of coffee is captivating. While sipping on a tall mocha at Starbucks, I contemplated the answer, as well as the popularity of a coffee bean's many uses. In the past, tea was the favored social drink. Boiled tea leaves were highly favored, mainly because drinking tea did not result in sickness, as did unboiled (usually contaminated) water. However, technology has since enlightened us, therefore it is not likely that coffee is such a popular drink because consumption prevents illness. Why then, is it so popular?

While pondering the subject, I kept an alert eye out, in case of a celebrity sighting. During my previous visit at Starbucks I chanced a peep at the actor who plays Sidney on "Melrose Place." But, so far, no celebs.

Obviously, caffeine is an attractive characteristic of coffee. How many times has it kept you company on an all-nighter? And like nicotine, it is quite addictive. Yet, there is something else that lures youngsters and seasoned citizens alike to shops like Javaholics, The Coffee Bean, The Daily Brew, and Starbucks. Consulting the dregs in the bottom of my doubled paper cup did not reveal the answer; perhaps

that method of revelation is exclusive to tea leaves.

Creativity, mixed with a little coffee, goes a long way. Proof positive is demonstrated on the menus of the various coffee shops. Black coffee is not enough to satiate the palates of trendy coffee seekers; current choices range from espressos to flavored frappuccinos or cappuccinos, accompanied by yummy, fat-filled delectables.

When a vertically challenged man, dark sunglasses resting on a prominent nose, nonchalantly entered, I was degrees away from whip-lash. My celeb alert was too sensitive because I had mistaken the gentleman who entered as our charming neighbor, Dustin Hoffman.

Once my heart rate returned to normal, I became aware of my surroundings, one

of the most important elements of the java experience. Why it had not occurred to me sooner, as a proud Starbucks drinker for four years, that the allure was significantly attributable to my fellow coffee fiends, employees and decor of the establishment and the atmosphere. A smile crept over my face as I savored the mocha remnants and polished off a tasty sticky bun. Virginia Woolf said it best, "It is sometimes in our idleness, in our dreams, that the submerged truth comes to the top."

Career Planning Offers Many Different Services for Students

By Eileen T. Herrmann
Staff Writer

The Career Planning counselors are buzzing with excitement as they prepare a generation of students to enter the world. Both Monica Lond, Director of Career Planning at Chalon campus, and Susan Crawford, Career Counselor at Doheny campus, are ready to motivate each student to continue her education and fulfill her dream. Come in and let them show you a bridge between college and the real world.

The Career Planning office is open to all students, but unfortunately, many new students are not aware of the helpful surprises available. Nancy Huynh, a second year student, has not discovered the treasures waiting in Humanities 200A, on the Chalon campus or in Building #7 at the Doheny campus. She comments, "I always pass the office and read 'Career Planning,' but I think that it is only for seniors who are about to graduate."

Susan Crawford, at Doheny, feels her personal goal is to draw all students in to plan their careers as soon as possible: "the sooner a student begins setting

up and exploring a possible career, the higher the chances that the student will find a career she will enjoy successfully. My message is: Do not wait until your senior year to find a job."

As stated in the Mount St. Mary's College *Student Handbook*, "Career Planning provides the opportunity for students to find the major and career best suited for them by learning how to identify their unique skills, interest, and values."

Monica Lond, holding down the fort at Chalon, offers a mock interview, explaining that, "the interview is a valuable exercise that is video-taped and commented to prepare the students before a real interview." Monica Lond is ready to assist you with any aspect of career planning by assessing your skills, evaluating your interests, establishing your goals, brainstorming your career options, writing resumes and cover letters, and researching possible employers. Every fall semester, she offers a one unit Career Planning Seminar that covers everything from A to Z in preparing for a career.

Lond and Crawford created a computer software called *Choices 94*, or *Careerware*, that helps students explore job opportunities. Careerware is loaded with job titles, fields of work, and graduate schools that will provide a major suitable to your interests, and necessary skills that are involved to achieve that career choice.

The counselors are also members of National Association of Colleges and Employers, Western Association of Colleges and Employers, and Consortium of Liberal Arts Schools and Independent Colleges, and have worked together to form the Friends and Alumni Network Association, that gives students an opportunity to spend a day or more with Mount alumnae.

The Career Planning office is waiting for you. Why not start shopping for the career that you will most enjoy, and experience the internships, workshops, and resources available for the asking?

Poll: Who is a female historical role model for you and why?



Harriet Tubman— she had the courage and strength to fight to free her own people. I can't say many would do the same and take the risk.

—April Bourquin, fourth year student



Cory Aquino— because she helped restore hope among Filipinos.

—Donna Erfe, third year student



Eleanor Roosevelt— for having courage to get power!

—Suzie Ward, first year student



Harriet Tubman— she demonstrated determination, strength and willpower to pursue freedom and equality for all.

—Jennifer Allande, third year student

Other role models included: Oprah Winfrey, Hillary Rodham Clinton, Catherine the Great, Margaret Sanger, Jane Addams, my mother, Sheila James Kuhel, Rosa Parks, Mother Theresa, Dolores Huerta, Maya Angelou, and Eva Peron.

• Poll conducted at the March 13, 1997 Women's History Fair.

Photos by Moria Demby.

Movie Review: Fools Rush In

By Summer Cervantez
Staff Writer

Having never been a big fan of Friends or Matthew Perry's acting skills, Fools Rush In was not on my movie "must see" list. My motivation for going to see this film was the result of hearing more than a few people talk about the controversy surrounding the film's stereotypical depiction of the Hispanic culture. Figuring the movie could not possibly be any more offensive than the hundreds of on-screen Hispanic maids I'd already seen portrayed I went into the movie cautious, but relatively unbiased.

Fools Rush In, directed by Andy Tennat, introduces Perry as Alex Whitman. Perry is thoroughly unbelievable as being able to experience or comprehend anything outside of his Friends genre. Whitman is a New York yuppie, whose career building nightclubs takes him to Las Vegas. Soon Whitman bumps into Isabele Fuentes, aspiring photographer, portrayed by Salma Hayek. Hayek's acting is fresh and a nice break from her other roles. After a brief introduction a quick one-night stand, Fuentes and Whitman part ways, until Fuentes shows up three months later to announce that she is pregnant. (Much to the chagrin of Trojan users everywhere, they used protection but "something must've happened.") Whitman agrees to meet Fuentes' family, so that she is able to tell her family that she had brought home the father of her child at least once. After meeting Fuentes' family, Whitman is so moved, that the couple is soon married in the traditional Las Vegas style. The bliss is tarnished by the introduction of Fuentes to Whitman's family and finally by the eventual meeting of both families, leaving the couple to face their cultural and class differences. The



bliss is further eroded when Whitman's job forces the couple into outright deception, eventual separation, and a lot of soul-searching.

Some of the stereotypes about Hispanics the film highlighted included Fuentes' large family: "I live with five brothers, three cousins and one bathroom," Fuentes declared to Whitman. Fuentes' large family is, of course, Catholic and has an affixation for crucifixes, brightly painted houses, and going to the bathroom with the door open.

Most of the stereotypes that are portrayed are enough to annoy the viewer, but not enough to give the film any sort of definitive substance. It is unclear if Tennat wanted to address the cultural issues, since they are illustrated clearly in musical sequences, but given little dialogue and no final resolution. Tennat either needed to make the decision to give the story more depth, and allow the characters to interact with and confront their cultural differences, or he needed to throw out the cultural aspects all together and focus more on the integral parts of Whitman's and Fuentes' relationship.

The best example of Tennat's indecisiveness is when Fuentes is mistaken by Whitman's parents as the maid. "There must be a lot of good help around here, especially being so close to Mexico," is the comment Whitman's mother makes. This comment seems to ignite a stereotype, but it is clearly set up since Fuentes answers the door in torn sweats, a ponytail, and cleaning rag and bottle of Windex in her hand. Anyone

with her appearance, depicting her actions could have been mistaken for the maid, so why is the mother's comment even necessary? Tennat needed to make a point, one way or the other, instead suggesting stereotypes on the both sides of the fence and never offering any sort of clarification.

It is disturbing to see that Hollywood still sees Hispanic culture one way, and are still hesitant to put Hispanic actors and actresses in non-traditional roles. It is also disturbing that the film had to put white against Hispanic by portraying the Caucasian community as being rich and ignorant snobs. Viewers on both sides are sure to be sitting their thinking, "Hmm...I'm white/Hispanic and that's not me." It is just too bad Hollywood is too unenlightened to realize it.

Fools Rush In is unsuccessful as a love story, because of its lack of depth and ability to portray a real couple sorting out real problem, namely the lack of focus on how the couple struggled to overcome the "us" instead of "me" syndrome. The resolution of the film is unsatisfying because the initial conflict was unclear and unsatisfying. Is the film about a lack of communication or their families objections to their relationship? Hence, Fools Rush In fails to make any sort of social comment; other than people who are getting paid millions of dollars to make films still can not aim for accuracy. It is too bad that the most satisfying line in the film was not expanded on more thoroughly, "You will never know love unless you surrender to it."

My recommendation for is to save your money, and spend it elsewhere...perhaps on Howard Stern's new movie Private Parts.

Staff Editorial

There is an interesting epidemic spreading through this college. As a newspaper staff interested in being a mouthpiece of the student body, we have noticed and been frustrated by it — anonymity.

Each meeting we sit together and try to generate story ideas the students will be interested in, as well as faculty and staff. We also set out to get student responses for each story, but time and again students are unwilling to have their names used in the newspaper. What is the problem?

Not a day goes by where complaints are not made by a student that goes unheard by a member of *The Oracle* staff. We are baffled by the fact that people will not own up to their opinions. Discussion has ensued many times among the staff. Is the problem that the college is so small people would prefer to remain anonymous? Does a fear of putting one's name to opinions indicate that there is a chasm between the administration/faculty and the students?

One stark example of this was the recent story by Aisling McGuckin on the nursing students. Only one of the many nursing students McGuckin spoke with allowed her to use her name. The rest felt uncomfortable putting their names to their feelings. After the story ran, a Letter to the Editor was received.

It was an onslaught of criticism of the story from a nursing student. Unfortunately this student failed to sign her very passionate letter, and our policy explicitly states that unsigned letters cannot and will not be printed. Summer Cervantes encountered this with her story on the security as did Alessandra Brophy in her story about the formation of a new club for gays and lesbians. Can we chalk this up to mere coincidence, or is something else going on? Moreover, how do any of these anonymous students expect change when no one will put their name to anything?

To the staff reading the unsigned Letter to the Editor it became powerless. There was no name, no personality, no validity to the letter in its unsigned state. How can it be serious if there is no name to it? Sometimes, as a staff, we feel that our stories have likewise not been as powerful as they may have been if interviewees had been more willing to express their concerns. This is a **student newspaper**; we are here to serve the students. Without the backing of the students, students' concerns and issues will fail to be taken seriously. Reconsider the next time one of us comes to you for your opinion on an issue. Most likely, the backlash you expect will not happen, in fact, your voice may be heard, and things may change for the better.

Ask Athena: Men in a Good Environment at the Mount

By Athena
Goddess of War and Wisdom,
and the Mount Mascot

Q: What do you think of men going to a women's college?



A: In general, when choosing a college to attend, it is important to consider the programs and classes offered, extracurricular activities, the support and responsiveness of staff and faculty, and the attitude of the student body and the college as a whole.

If you can find favorable characteristics in a college in all of these areas, then you have probably found a good environment.

At a college like the Mount, a primarily women's college, men have a lot to gain academically and socially. They have the opportunity to gain insights and experiences in areas few men do. In an environment where women are encouraged to take on leadership roles, express themselves, and defend their ideas, all people will benefit. Women have a remarkable potential to accomplish many essential goals in

human society. Their contributions are valuable. When they share their talents, society strengthens and evolves. When society responds positively to them, it flourishes.

Male students who graduate from the Mount may leave with greater understanding and appreciation of human life — as well as a perspective that they may not have been able to develop elsewhere. In addition, women who attend the Mount can gain a wider view of life when they are able to interact and interface with their fellow male students.

The Oracle

of Mount St. Mary's College

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The opinions expressed in signed columns and letters are the author's, not necessarily the views of the staff or Mount St. Mary's College. The Oracle welcomes articles and contributions by students, faculty, staff and alumni. The Oracle reserves the right to reject or edit all submissions. Letters to the Editor are strongly encouraged. All correspondence to The Oracle should be addressed to: The Oracle, Box 52, 12001 Chalon Road, Los Angeles, CA 90049.

Sorry, but unsigned letters will not be printed.

ASB Elections: Candidate Statements

Sophomore Senator Candidates:

Mary Jacquelyn Balba

I am seeking the position of Sophomore Senator because I would like to see our class, the class of 2000, make their mark not only here at Mount St. Mary's College but in society as well. Our class has a special gift that I would like to see shared with everyone. As Freshman Senator, I firmly believe the class of 2000 can make a difference and I would like to help this hope, this attainable dream become a reality.

Photo Not Available

Mary Jacquelyn Balba

Summer Cervantez

I think it's important that no matter who or where we are, we find a voice, and with that voice we seek to do what we can to impact the world around us.

My interest in becoming Sophomore Senator stems from that belief. I am interested in becoming more familiar with the policies and decisions that affect all Mount students.

I believe I can contribute to the position of Sophomore Senator a sense of dedication and an open mind. I will place an emphasis on knowing the concerns of my peers, and discovering how ASB can best address these concerns.



Summer Cervantez. (Photo by Marla Ferguson)

Senior Senator Candidate:

Cristina Solis

Dear Juniors,

You already know me as your current Junior Senator and I'm running again because I think there is so much more to accomplish together. Be assured that I will represent YOU! I want to hear YOUR ideas, questions, comments, and complaints so that we can make our SENIOR year, and especially graduation, the most memorable. Your voice is important to me and this school. Positive change will happen, but I can't do anything without your support and vote.

Remember to vote for **Cristina Solis** for SENIOR senator!

Thank you.
-Cris

Photo Not Available

Cristina Solis

Vice President, Chair of Student Activities Council Candidate:

Pamela Monzon

Change is in the air... With the new amendments to the Constitution, Mount St. Mary's is about to witness a new and improved ASB. I would like the opportunity as Chair of SAC to facilitate these changes, most of which affect the Student Activities Council.

Some people are intimidated by change, left only to realize that advancement is far from their reach. I, on the other hand, am an advocate of change, willing to take the risk to reach new heights.

Imagine... a bigger and better SAC. The time has come. Together, we can make this a reality.



Pamela Monzon. (Photo by Moria Demby)

Vice President, Chair of Senate Candidates:

Cynthia Guerrero

Hello everyone! My name is Cynthia Guerrero and I am running for ASB Vice President of Senate. I have been a student at Mount St. Mary's for three years. I have had the experience of being a resident and a commuter so I know there are issues that concern all of you. As Vice President of Senate, my job, along with the class senators, would be to implement policy. Your concerns are important and those issues will be addressed if I am elected to represent the student body as Chair of Senate. Vote for Cynthia for V.P. of Senate!



Cynthia Guerrero. (Photo by Marla Ferguson)

Donalyn "DJ" Lorenzo

I am seeking election to ASB because I like to be involved in campus activities. I feel that ASB can make a difference in students' lives and can help enrich the college experience. I have been a member of ASB as Freshman Senator and I currently hold the position of Sophomore Senator. Being involved in ASB has made living here on campus a lot easier and I am satisfied with my college career, thus far. If elected to this position, I will bring hard work, dedication, and experience. Students' voices will be heard and a difference will be made.



Donalyn Lorenzo. (Photo by Moria Demby)

Chair of Interclub Council Candidates:

Liane Martinez

I'd like to work with the students who are making things happen at MSMC. Many MSMC students don't participate in school activities and don't have MSMC spirit and pride. I'd like to help change this. I don't want to just sit and complain about things...I have the creativity, energy and optimism to try and possibly change the way students view MSMC and college life. I would be more than willing to listen to students needs and I would dedicate my time and efforts to help make them happen. I want to make a difference and this is my chance!

Photo Not Available

Liane Martinez

Anna Intharathut

Extra! Extra! Read all about her! This is the girl you want as your Chair of Interclub Council! She's fun-loving, sociable, bright, and has a smile that can brighten up your whole day. Anna Intharathut is currently a sophomore double-majoring in International Business and Political Science. Involved in a vast number of organizations and activities on campus, Anna has developed a vital role within the Mount community and is fully aware of what you need. Maintaining a positive and persistent attitude, Anna knows how to get things done and make things happen.

Vote for Intharathut!!!!!!The household name. Hee!Hee!

Photo Not Available

Anna Intharathut

Presidential Candidates:

Hassel C. Perez

My leadership experiences along with my strong character give me the qualities that are essential for the position of President. As president I plan to oversee the functions of ASB to ensure that it reaches its goals in order to benefit the entire student population. I have high expectations of ASB and envision our campus becoming innovative and enjoyable. I welcome your suggestions and look forward to serving you with pride and dedication. By voting for me as President, you will elect an open-minded, confident, goal-oriented, and trustworthy person. I am enthusiastic about becoming your next President.



Hassel Perez. (Photo by Marla Ferguson)

Alice "Cherry" Patricio

My name is Alice "Cherry" Patricio and I am running for ASB President. I am running for president not because it looks good on my resume nor am I running because I am after power and prestige, but because I want to make a difference and provide a role model for students.

The Mount community taught me to become a good leader, an organizer and a communicator. I would like to express my gratitude by volunteering my services to the school and by imparting some of my knowledge and expertise to others! Remember, vote for Alice "Cherry" for ASB President!



Alice Patricio. (Photo by Marla Ferguson)

African Marketplace Ends Black History Month



In celebration of Black History Month, an African Marketplace was held in the Chalon Circle on February 26, 1997. Many vendors were at the marketplace selling their goods which included incense, wooden sculptures, clothing, artwork, and jewelry. A jazz band was present to enliven the mood of the last event for Black History Month. (Photo by Moria Demby)

Doheny Security

continued from page 1

here for a long time. Our neighbors are mostly Hispanic and they care about the college and the sisters. They use Chester Place to cross and they are very respectful."

Twenty four hour security is one very important element of campus safety at Doheny. Ana Verdin, a fourth year student and Resident Assistant explains, "When one security is off the next one comes in. They are very helpful and they are a good group."

One concern with the construction of the library was the isolation of residents in Building Two. Sister Edward declared, "A security post placed on that side of campus to meet the concerns expressed by students and to ensure their safety."

Abbie Velasquez, a second year student, voiced her concern about the efficiency of the guards. "What if something really happens? The guards do not have guns so will they really be able to save someone and themselves?" Velasquez asked.

Sister Edward stated that one incident took place this semester, and she is very confident in Great American Security. "I speak very highly of our guards. Jeff and Jaime are great as well as the rest of the guards," Sister Edward explained.

USC also offers an escort service available to Doheny residents. The escorts will pick students up from the dorms and take them to the stores or to the USC campus. Some girls do use the escort service," Velasquez declares.

Campus safety is a concern for everyone on the Mount community. Doheny students seem generally confident in campus security, as well as the outside services that are provided.

Finally, as Sister Edward explains, "If there are any concerns they should be expressed in the open forums with Sister Katherine Kelly and as soon as possible. Safety is our main concern." Security issues are said to not be taken lightly, and the Doheny resident's general opinion prove an overall confidence in campus safety.

Alternative Medicine

continued from page 2

Pang stated, "The clinic is so busy that we cannot accommodate everyone. There is usually a six week wait." Pang described how eastern, or alternative medicine, emphasizes holistic treatments, which help the body generate its own defenses. These methods are also not as expensive as standard western treatments, which include operations, hospital stays and drug treatments. Alternative methods are cost-effective; both patients and insurance companies save money. Pang declared, "Preventative methods are cost-effective." However, the government and insurance companies remain somewhat reluctant.

The center's education program offers elective courses to first and fourth year medical students. It also coordinates conferences for medical doctors, nurses and other specialists. Lay people can also take advantage of seminars and workshops to learn how to integrate eastern and western medicine. In addition, college and high school students can volunteer to participate in research projects.

The information and referral department provides links to people and centers worldwide, especially in China. Visiting scholars speak about their own research at the center. The center also collaborates with other Los Angeles area colleges on certain events.

Pang mentioned that the research program is not as strong as they would like it to be, but they are seeking funds and more support. All undergraduate students who sign up for research projects are assigned topics. The students then conduct literary research and write papers. This information is used in the center's brochures.

There is great potential for the wisdom of both western and eastern medicine to combine into a potent tool for a healthy life.

Doheny Residence Life

continued from page 1

she expressed, "Chalon's RHA and Doheny's RC, in addition to ASB, can be used to at least generate talk and clear up assumptions."

Sosa also happily commented that Doheny residents are becoming more active. Different committees have been formed and they are hoping and working to create a better atmosphere for all Doheny students.

Ana Verdin, a fourth year student and Resident Assistant at Doheny, was asked to share her views on her experience as an R.A. and to comment on the new RC, "Some people are not use to her [Alex Sosa]. Rules now need to be followed by the book." Verdin strongly emphasized that former Residence Life Director, Sr. James Marion, simply had a different way of handling issues and problems," Verdin expressed. "There is more responsibility for us now," Verdin declares.

Verdin was also asked what she felt the difference was between both campuses. Verdin simply replied, "It is the location. Down here we have access to everything and up there you are isolated."

First year student, Norma Herrera from San Fernando Valley, explained that life at Doheny has truly been a positive experience for her. "I have a Korean roommate and that has taught me about respecting other cultures. Living on campus has really been a positive experience for me," expressed Herrera.

Life on Doheny is said to have changed dramatically with the presence of the new Residence Life Director. Although only small changes have been made, Sosa excitedly states, "RC is new on this campus and so far it has been a successful way to create more activism on this campus."

Future Club

continued from page 1

if the club will even exist."

According to Cox, the response from the faculty at the Mount has been supportive. Cox is unaware of any negative sentiments towards her or the idea of having such a club on campus. She stated, "My teachers have been really nice to me and the environment here feels positive. I just need to complete the constitution and turn it into the ASB Cultural Co-Chairs."

Michelle Nguyen, a first year student and one of the ASB Cultural Co-Chairs, is prepared to approve the constitution. She stated, "I think having a gay club on campus will be an asset to the school. It will certainly open up people's minds and provide support and information for those who are interested."



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Mount News For Both Campuses

CAREER PLANNING NEWS

Interested in working with children?

Learn more about careers in teaching and early childhood education by attending the Alumnae Career Dinner Panel on Thursday, March 27 at 5:30p.m. in Donohue Center, Doheny Campus. Sign-up is required. Visit Career Planning for more information.

VOLUNTEER FAIR IS COMING!

The Third Annual "Jobs That Serve" Volunteer Career Fair will be held on Thursday, April 3 in the Circle. Representatives from a variety of agencies and organizations will be on campus to discuss volunteer and internship opportunities.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE FOLLOWING CAREER FAIRS:

-Monday, March 24—L.A. Times Job Fair at the Long Beach Convention Center—10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.(free)—Limited Transportation will be provided.

-Friday, April 4—National Hispanic Women's Conference Job Fair, Los Angeles Convention Center (\$7.00 registration fee)

-Wednesday, April 30—Association of Hispanic Professionals for Education (AHPE) Career Fair—Disneyland Pacific Hotel (free)

For more information on volunteer and internship opportunities, graduate schools, career choices and more visit Career Planning in H200A or call (310)954-4135.

DEDICATED TO THE ONE YOU...

Limited Space is available in the 1996-1997 Athenian yearbook for students, staff, faculty, family and friends to send a message to a graduating senior, dedicate a page to classmates and/or the entire Mount community or even highlight your club's activities. Anyone can buy a "space" in the yearbook for that special message. Space rates are as follows:

1/16 page	\$5	1/2 page \$35
1/8 page	\$10	full page \$50
1/4 page	\$20	

Contact Monica Lond, Yearbook Advisor at (310) 954-4136 or stop by the Student Affairs Office (H200) at Chalon. Space will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis.

WING IT ALL THE WAY TO THE BANK

Earn \$50 and a place in Mount history by designing the official college Christmas card for 1997. Photographs, line drawings, woodcuts, oil paintings, watercolors, computer graphics or any other media can be used. The original design can use images of either or both campuses, or spring from your own imagination. The name of the winning designer will be included on the card itself, the winner will receive a free set of the cards and will be announced in the Mount St. Mary's College magazine and other campus publications. The deadline for entries is March 27. Submissions should be sent to Jill Perry, Public Relations Director, Box 116, Chalon Campus, or can be delivered to Perry in Public Relations, Rossiter Hall, second floor. The card size should be one of three standard sizes: 5 1/2 x 4 1/2 folded, 6 1/4 x 4 1/2 folded, or 5 x 7 folded. If you have any questions, call Jill Perry at (310) 954-4084 or Jody Baral, Art Department Chair, (310) 954-4361.

RELIGIOUS CONFERENCE EXPANDS TO WELCOME WOMEN OF ALL CHRISTIAN DENOMINATIONS

The ninth annual Women Connecting Women Conference will be held from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. April 12 at Mount St. Mary's College, Doheny Campus. Dr. Martha Ellen Stortz, a layperson in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, will address the issue "Why Do You Say I Am?" in which she will explore questions relating to biblical faith. Stortz has taught theology and ethics at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary within the Graduate Theological Union at Berkeley. She is the author of numerous articles and the book "PastorPower." The conference, including lunch, is \$15 before April 12; \$18 for registration at the door. For more information and reservations, call (213) 477-2640/2650.

ROBIN ABCARIAN TO SPEAK AT MOUNT ST. MARY'S COLLEGE

Award-winning columnist and radio talk show host Robin Abcarian will speak about "Women in the Media" at the Mount St. Mary's College Alumnae Association's Spring Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. on April 12 in the Chalon Campus Center. This event is open to the public; admission is \$35 and parking is free. For details, call (310) 954-4087. Abcarian, a columnist for the Life & Style section of the Los Angeles Times and radio co-host of the "Two Chicks on the Radio" show on 710 KTZN (formerly KMPC), will discuss the many issues women face in the media today.

MOUNT ST. MARY'S WEEKEND COLLEGE TO HOLD FREE INFORMATION SESSIONS...

The Weekend College at Mount St. Mary's College will hold two free information sessions for its summer semester at 10 a.m., April 5 and 19 in the College's Lecture Hall, 12001 Chalon Road in Brentwood. The summer session begins May 17-18.

TAKE BACK THE NIGHT WITH MSMC-USC ALLIANCE!

Doheny and Chalon students are invited to fight against violence, rape, and sexual harassment! Join Mount and Trojan Women as we RECLAIM the night on Tuesday, March 25 at 7:00 p.m. at USC. Chalon Students should meet in the Circle at 6:00 for transportation to Doheny. Doheny students should meet at the shuttle stop at 6:45 for transportation to USC.

EASTER EGG HUNT

MSMC Alumnae will sponsor an EASTER EGG HUNT on the Doheny campus on Saturday, March 22, 1997

Upcoming Cultural Events

MOCA Spring 1997

"Images of an Era: Selections from the Permanent Collection"

Through August 17, 1997

The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA

Focus Series: "Toba Khedoori"

April 6 through July 13, 1997

MOCA at California Plaza

"Walt Disney Concert Hall: A Celebration of Music and Architecture"

Through April 27, 1997

MOCA at California Plaza

"Color Fields: Selections from the Permanent Collection"

November 24, 1996, through March 30, 1997

MOCA at California Plaza

"Ellsworth Kelly: A Retrospective"

February 16 through May 18, 1997

MOCA at California Plaza

"Uncommon Sense"

Featuring Ann Carlson, Mary Ellen Strom, Mel Chin and the GALA Committee, Cornerstone Theater Company, Karen Finely, Rick Lowe and Mierle Laderman Ukeles.

March 16 through July 6, 1997

The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA

Santa Monica College

Gerda S. Mathan's "Encounters: Photographs of People"

Features black-and-white images taken in Mexico, the Middle East, Africa and the U.S.

February 28 through April 5

Santa Monica College Photography Gallery

Skirball Cultural Center

"George Segal: Works from the Bible," an exhibition of five major sculpture-environments by the celebrated American sculptor.

February 27, 1997, through July 25, 1997

Emily
Langdon's
Criminal
Behavior p.4

Howard Stern
and Heidi Fleiss
Bless the
Mount p. 2

Gourmet Eats:
McDonald's
"Four Stars!"
p. 3

Check out our
really cool staff
box!
p. 4

The Orifice
staff's promis-
ing career goals
p. 3

The Orifice

The Mouthpiece of Mount St. Mary's College

April Fool's Day

Volume 2 Number 8

Mount Goes Co-ed

By the Bionic Woman
Staff Writer

The year 1997-1998 promises to be a very exciting one for all who wish to see more male faces on campus. Beginning in Fall of '97, the Mount will no longer be a primarily women's college. Men will now be recruited and offered special financial assistance if they choose to attend the Mount. This decision, made by the college administration and the Board of Trustees, is due in part by the lack of involvement in college activities. It is believed that new faces, male faces in particular, will generate a feeling of competition.

One future student of the Mount stated that he is very happy that the Mount has opened its doors to him. "I feel very lucky because I have three sisters who come to the Mount and this is a good way to keep my family together," stated Pancrasio Reyes from Highland Park. Reyes also stated that the Registrar, Business, and

Financial Aid Office have been very helpful. "They are the nicest people I have ever met. If I have a question, they are ready to answer and if they don't have an answer they will do anything to find out for me," Reyes declared.

One of the major questions in this process of making the Mount co-ed is regarding housing. Unfortunately, not all housing will be co-ed. Carondelet will now be used for males only and Brady will be female housing. Rossiter will be available for both male and female students who do not want toilet flushing after 8:00 p.m. The first floor will be females only and the rest will be for males since it is believed that men need more peace and quiet than women. Women should not be too excited about living on the first floor of this building because there will be security posts in the stairwells. Which security guard will be assigned to these new

positions is still unknown. Although, usually the guard who works the night shift at the front gate is given these new positions. They work very hard in greeting all students and their guests with a special "hello my friend" all semester long. It is felt that the guard who does this will be the first to be offered the new position.

The Mount has offered many new opportunities for men who wish to attend the Mount. There is a new scholarship that will be offered. It is called the Non-Revocable Non-Replaceable Manly Merit Award. This scholarship will be offered to all men of the Mount and will never replace or interfere with any other financial assistance.

Chad McKnight, who will also be attending the Mount next Fall, stated that out of all the offers he had gotten from other

Co-ed

Continued on page 2

Dysfunctional Family Day, April 5

By Super Girl
Assistant Editor

Dysfunctional Family Day is coming to the Mount on April 5. The theme for this year is "I'm OK, you're OK," with plenty of chances for a healthy release of aggression throughout the day. The Dysfunctional Family Day Committee has planned some great events — so invite your relatives if you haven't already!

For those of you who like to be active or want to get a kick out of seeing your couch potato uncle try to move his butt — the Ball-and-Chain relay race is for you! Each contestant chooses a relative who best defines the reason why they want to change their last name. Next, one contestant carries the other piggy-back style, as they run through an obstacle course. When they reach the end, the other contestant carries the one that ran before, attempting the course all over again. Family members will come to know the true meaning of the word "burden."

On the other hand, maybe they will finally encourage each other to lose some weight [gained of course at the family Thanksgiving dinner]. Relay-race winners will be rewarded



If the idea of throwing yourself on this cactus is more pleasant than spending time with your family, you need to come on down to Dysfunctional Family Day! (Photo by The Flash.)

with t-shirts reading, "I'm with stupid."

Don't worry — those of you with artistic talents, manual dexterity and/or good aim will not be left out of the day's thrills. Family members will have the chance to get their pictures taken — just don't expect to take the likeness of your lovely mug with you! You choose another relative's photo — make sure it's your annoying cousin who taunted you when you had braces. Pens and markers will be available to enhance cuz' with mustache and goatee, missing front teeth and a variety of piercings. Remember — one of your kin will be doing the same to you! [Aaah! the lesson of humility] But, it's all in good fun!

Of course, if face painting is not your specialty, darts are always handy. You can pin El Nerdo Grande (the photo, not the real thing, please) to a board and practice your aim.

Dysfunctional

Continued on page 2

Celebrity Students Study at Mount

By Cat Woman
Staff Writer

Have you noticed the exceptional number of new students milling around the Mount at the Doheny and Chalon campuses? There are new faces popping up everywhere, and a number of these seem to be surprisingly familiar. The reason you may have been experiencing this strange sense of deja-vu is because a new program has been created by many of the local entertainment industry studios. The



Juliette Lewis hangs out like a real person. (Photo by Cat Woman)

companies feel that their actors have not had as much schooling as their compatriots in the real world. Directors feel that acting school just doesn't cut it when it comes to playing some professional roles.

The desire for leading actors to be as convincing as possible has led some studios to enroll their leading stars in local colleges and universities. Some readers may recall seeing Jaleel White on the UCLA campus and hearing about Sara Gilbert at Harvard. Because the Mount is such a small school, the producers have decided that the students attending the Mount should go incognito, feigning an alternate identity as "just another student."

Some of the recent actors

who have been discovered living a secret existence at the Mount are Jodie Foster, pursuing a degree in Sociology and Criminal Justice; Gloria Estefan, who is taking advantage of the

Mount's prestigious Music Program; and Juliette Lewis who is studying psychology with a special interest in serial killers. Among the male students are Forrest Whittaker and Antonio Banderas,

both pursuing degrees in Nursing.

When these stars were asked how they enjoy the program, they all asserted that they didn't realize quite how challenging it would be. "You know, real life is really difficult and I didn't quite understand how demanding college really is," said Lewis. Banderas agreed, "You know, a producer should really take advantage of all the tensions and drama that are played out on the scene of a college campus, and get past all the campy things



Jodie Foster craves the intellectual environment at the Mount. (Photo by Cat Woman)

that college movies are usually about."

These students do not want to

Celebrity

Continued on page 2

Heidi Fleiss and Howard Stern Bless Us with Their Presence

By Princess Leia
Staff Writer

Next year students will have the pleasure of working and living with two very special people. Heidi Fleiss and Howard Stern are going to become members of the Mount community.

Perhaps no two people personify what is still good and pure in America better than Ms. Fleiss and Mr. Stern. Ms. Fleiss will be working in the Business Office, Career Planning, and will be overseeing all fundraising activities. Mr. Stern will be joining the Sisters in Residence program and researching material for his new book.

As a former drug dealer and the head of a successful prostitution ring, Ms. Fleiss knows what it takes to be successful in the business world. Unfortunately, the LAPD thought the manner in which she conducted her business was overly flamboyant, and she was forced to shut down her business. However, the Business Office

and the Career Planning Office are privileged and honored that Ms. Fleiss will be serving her 300 hours of community service at the Mount. Ms. Fleiss was unable to come to the Mount this semester because she is currently serving 37 months in a minimum security prison facility for tax evasion, drug dealing, and prostitution.

Mr. Stern, The King of All Media, will be living in one of the Residence Halls next year. Mr. Stern, who is also a two time best selling author, will be at the Mount conducting research for his next book which is on women who attend private Catholic colleges. Because he is loud and cannot keep his mouth shut for long periods of time, Mr. Stern will not be living in Rossiter, though he does look forward to teaching the people who live in that dorm to lighten-up and stop being so serious. He will most likely be assigned to

third floor Brady. He will be dressing in drag every single day, sometimes as a nun, in order to fit in with the student body. Mr. Stern is looking forward to spending time with the Sisters and personally getting to know all of the lovely young ladies that attend the Mount.

Because Ms. Fleiss and Mr. Stern are such prominent individuals, several rules at the Mount will be changed. Males will be permitted to spend the night and will be allowed on campus at all times. No doubt, Ms. Fleiss' good friend Charlie Sheen will be spending lots of time on campus. In order to accommodate Mr. Stern, a practicing Jew, all food in the cafeteria will be kosher, even the bugs.

Hopefully, Mrs. Fleiss and Mr. Stern will fit in with the Mount community. They certainly have a lot to teach us.

Dysfunctional

Continued from page 1

Bull's eye! If you're still not content (codependency really does hinder happiness?) you will have the opportunity to tape the pic of L'Idiot Supreme to punching bag. Added Perk: This offers great toning for your upper body.

If the reality of being in close contact with your family makes you sentimental ("I know I'm adopted! I just have to be!" -sob-), counselors will be avail-

able all day long for your assistance. Maybe then you can delve into what has always been puzzling you — "Why does mom always twitch when she finds out the next family reunion will be held at our house?"

Dysfunctional Family Day is sure to be a big hit. Bring your whole family. Invite long-lost relatives. Oh — and don't forget your sense of humor!

Co-education

Continued from page 1

schools the Mount has been the best by far. "I was so surprised when I got my award letter. I don't have to get any loans and I still get a reimbursement to cover for my books and stuff. My parents are very excited about me coming here since I did not do too well in high school," McKnight expressed as he adjusted his football helmet.

Registration for new male students will not be on first come first serve basis. Instead, male students will be guaranteed a space for all classes. This is thought to serve as an incentive for men who want to come to the Mount. Every male student will have their own personal advisor. As for the women, make sure to stand in line during pre-registration early enough to make the wait list.

The Doheny campus will not change during the first semester but in the Spring, all male students will live and have class there. It was concluded that women are not safe in that part of town so men will have to

sacrifice themselves by living there. One Doheny student, who wishes to remain anonymous, claims that there is another reason why the men are willing to

"I don't have to get any loans. . ."
—McKnight, new male student

live on that campus. "It is not about the safety, it is because they are closer to McDonald's and Jack in the Box. We [women] have been here for a long time and we are very safe. It is about who should get the better campus not who is safer," she explained.

The new Doheny Library will also be used by males only. The Chalon Library is good enough for women students so there should be no complaints. It is believed that assigning the different campuses and facilities to males and females will decrease possible tensions and problems.

Finally, the Mount is very excited about having new [male] faces on campus next Fall. The Mount will be a new place for all to enjoy, boys and girls.

Celebrity

Continued from page 1

be singled out because of their star status and increasingly avoid mentioning their "other" job. This becomes difficult when they have to miss classes because of an on-location shoot.

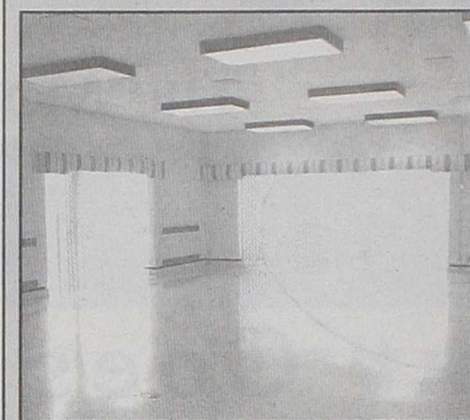
Gloria Estefan has encountered a negative response from teachers from whom she had kept her identity hidden. "They just won't accept the old excuse of a doctor's appointment or a death in the family after a couple of weeks' absence."

When it comes to late assignments and missing homework these actors have been out of the loop for so long that they often give excuses that were thrown out long ago. For Whittaker this has especially been a problem. "I told one professor that my dog ate my homework and she just looked at me. I thought that since I am an actor and essentially my job involves fooling people every day, I could convince her that my dog actual-

Something is Going On

By Super Girl
Assistant Editor

A yet-to-be-named event will be celebrated at an undisclosed time and place. A corporation, which prefers to remain nameless, is sponsoring the activities. A faculty and staff committee, who would



The yet-to-be named event is sure to attract hundreds of unwilling participants. (Photo by Anonymous Photographer)

rather not take any credit, is organizing the yet-to-be-planned activities. A surprise guest speaker will be making an appearance.

An anonymous professor said, "I'm really looking forward to []. It will be important for some people to attend," while an anonymous

student exclaimed, "sure, this may be interesting for some people. But I think they're not addressing the real issue, which I'd rather

not say right now. Besides, they should know what I'm talking about."

Another anonymous student believes, "There are some issues we have to deal with. Maybe this event will give us that opportunity." One anonymous staff member said, "[] needs to take more responsibility. But, overall...it's okay."

A person in a position of authority responded, "No comment — oh, and don't put my name to that." A student, who prefers to remain nameless for undisclosed reasons, declared, "I have opinions that I think a lot of people share." No matter what people think, they definitely have an opinion about this event.

"[Instructors] just won't accept the old excuse of a doctor's appointment or a death in the family after a couple of weeks' absence."
—Gloria Estefan, in the "program"

ly had a special liking for paper. But when I began to protest I lost all that acting ability because I knew she could see right through me. I couldn't fool that teacher one bit!"

How do these actors view their experience in the program at the Mount? Most felt that the school was preparing them to go boldly out into the world, that the education they are receiving here is excellent. Especially enthusiastic was Jodie Foster, "I have never in all my years witnessed such a dedicated staff of professors and faculty. I'm actually thinking of hiring a few of these skilled people to work on my next

production. The professors are friendly, and treat me like an exceptional student, as they treat all their pupils. I really feel like I belong here!"

Banderas felt a similar reaction toward the professors, but felt differently about the students, "I feel sort of out of place here. I have always been followed by women and fawned over, yet here I am treated like just another one of 'the male students'. I

want some attention!"

The overall reaction from the star students has been to assimilate easily into the student body without attracting too much attention. Lewis assents, "I sometimes get that, 'Hey aren't you Juliette Lewis?' to which I casually respond, 'No, but lots of people say that.' It seems to fool them pretty well. I guess this article will blow that cover."

So the next time you see an individual who bears a striking similarity to an actor, ask them if they are "part of the program" very nonchalantly, and in most cases, they will respond just as easily in the affirmative. Everyday, new students are being integrated into the program - so keep your eyes open. Many

"I get that, 'Hey aren't you Juliette Lewis?' to which I respond, 'No, but lots of people say that.'"
—Juliette Lewis, also in the "program"

of the actors attending classes here wished not to be named in this article, so be aware of your neighborhood in that next seat is. You never know who you will run into on the Mount!

McDonalds...Taste It Again for the FIRST TIME!!!

By Aisling McGuckin
Staff Writer

There is a new restaurant on the horizon, burgeoning with fast hot food and surpassing all expectations of the average restaurant-goer. This new chain of dependable bistros catering to the harried and frantic commuter and the American family is appropriately titled with an all-American name: McDonald's Restaurant.

Though there have recently been a number of restaurants serving the individual with a quick and easy rapport, McDonald's has proven to be the overall winner when considering the competition. The rapport between customer and server is a soothing blend of hospitality and good-natured competitiveness. Though some may call this rudeness, I found the fact that I had to return to ask for my sandwich to be re-heated quite challenging, and the response from the frustrated waiter to be quite comical. When he screamed that I could heat up my own sandwich by pouring some hot coffee over it, I really began to feel as though I was assimilating into the culture of the fast-food genre. The coffee seemed to do the trick, however, and because I accidentally spilled a little bit of it, permanently scarring the skin on my legs, I will always remember my trip to this restaurant with fond reminiscence.

I enjoyed quite a bit of variety when choosing from the expansive menu of victuals dished up at this place. There are a number of "Meal Deals" reflecting the different cultural influences which contribute to making this country the place that it is. There are the Italian Chicken Parmisan Sandwich and the Green Shamrock Milkshake. There are French Fries, Caesar Salads and Lobster Sandwiches, endless varieties of the classic American Hamburger and Cheeseburger, and Fish Sandwiches that taste as though they just swam out of the Santa Monica waters! My personal favorite is the McChicken Sandwich, a luscious ensemble of tender white meat topped with globules of warm mayonnaise and wilted lettuce. MMMM! You don't have to take out a knife to get through this one; it is quite literally melting in your hands! An especially effective touch is to append the prefix Mc- to all the food names, thereby giving the food that little extra bit of personality.

Rumors abound concerning the supposed use of kangaroo meat in sandwiches, somewhat reducing the number of customers, but McDonald's has gotten past this little setback, proving its reliability to the masses. In fact, to edify this point, many

of the restaurants boast "over 6 billion served" on their large M-shaped signs which can be seen gregariously looming over any metropolis. Another aspersion which caused some problems in the popularity of this restaurant was the report that the company clearcuts land in the Amazon to be used for grazing cattle. Yet doesn't this rather work in the restaurant's favor? What other company has even considered expanding their sphere of influence in the manner of the explorers of old?

This sphere of influence has reached epic proportions: There is a McDonald's restaurant in nearly every Western Nation, and children easily recognize the friendly faces of Ronald McDonald, Grimace, the Fry-Guys and the Hamburgler, though I must admit that when I was young they all frightened me. McDonald's was recently featured in a well-known scene in that great American family film, *Pulp Fiction*. Enjoy the rich cultural experience a trip to McDonald's can offer, and take advantage of a refreshing exposure to American cooking that few other restaurants can render. Stop in at your local McDonald's, where a friendly smile always inquires, "Have you had your break today?"

Poll: What does The Orifice staff plan to do after they get their degrees from the Mount?

"While completing my challenging coursework in Women's Studies, I learned to reevaluate my goals. I now feel my purpose is to fulfill my future husband's needs and desires."

-Marla Ferguson

"At the last minute, I have decided to change my major from English to Human Relations because my career goal has become to work in the efficient, friendly Registrar's Office."

-Sonia Cortez

"While receiving my degree in Environmental Studies at the Mount, I grew irritated at how much emphasis this campus places on recycling. When I graduate, I plan to apply to the company that supplies all the styrofoam to the Mount. I promise you that by 2001, the cafeteria will have NO china or silverware."

-Varsana Staszak

"I have decided to put aside my hopes of becoming an elementary school teacher for a more lucrative profession in the technology I have been immersed in here at the Mount."

-Moria Demby

"When I graduate with a double major in Psychology and Philosophy, I want to go after a position of power. The obvious choice is to go into law enforcement, and someday I hope to own my own security company."

-Summer Cervantez

"I want to become a WWF wrestler. This decision has nothing to do with the degree I will get from the Mount. I already know everything, so I might as well have a little fun and make some money."

-Alessandra Brophy

"All my exposure to American culture, and hearing Dr. Emily Langdon's great stories about Las Vegas have inspired me to become a showgirl."

-Yuki Ito

"After spending a semester in sunny L.A., and seeing all the movie stars, I want to become the head writer for The National Enquirer. The journalistic integrity and high moral and ethical standards of The Orifice staff have truly been my guidance."

-Aisling McGuckin

"Now that I am 21, my career goal after graduating have definitely shifted. I don't know where it has shifted to, but it has definitely shifted."

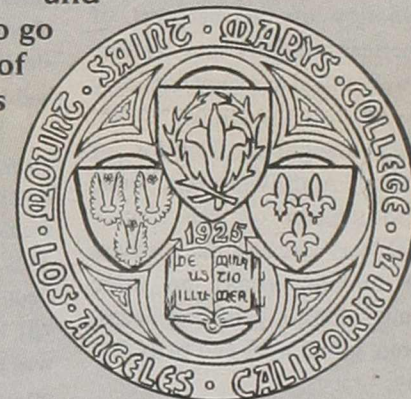
-Tiffany Kunich

"Because of my positive outlook and interest in working with a collaborative staff, I am aspiring to find a career with the DMV."

-Pamela Mustin

"I've decided to abandon my Liberal Studies major and focus on pest control, to remind me of all the little critters I saw at the Mount."

-Eileen Herrmann



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As the year 2000 nears

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Emily Langdon Caught!! Forced to be the Newest Member of Gamblers Anonymous

By Xena
Staff Writer

It is always a shock when someone we trust as a leader, someone who we have undying faith in, is exposed by the light of journalistic integrity. Richard Nixon, David Duke, Hugh

first new black Mercedes she could find. Unfortunately, a short while later Langdon ran into a fire hydrant and was taken into custody, along with her friends. There, Langdon was charged with illegal gambling,

an all-women's college; they're all just a bunch of feminist psychos!" Male concluded.

Langdon, now back at the Mount, posted bail and was released. She has gone about pretending nothing happened in Las Vegas, other than her ordinary "bet and win till I vomit" routine. She even went so far as to bring the stolen merchandise from the *New York New York* Hotel and show it off to students and faculty. Yet, our [The Orifice's] intense investigative reporting, has learned additional information concerning Langdon's release. Apparently, Langdon was unable to post bail for over 36 hours, obviously concerned that Mount school officials would somehow find out. Desperate and alone—since her friends framed her for everything and split—Langdon was finally able to convince Gary "Hello my friend!", the Mounts' best guard to anonymously loan her some money.

I recently spoke to Gary about the difficult situation he was placed in by loaning Langdon money. "Even though I knew I was risking my job, Emily's a sweet kid, and everyone is entitled to a little tough luck once in awhile," Gary said, "and if we really consider ourselves her friends we should encourage her to get help for her gambling and theft problems."

As the recent news swept the Mount's Chalon campus, some shared Gary's reaction and some did not. Dr. Jane Lingua, Vice President of Student Affairs, was not shocked by Langdon's behavior, just disappointed that it took so long for her to be exposed. "Anyone can see she has a problem, running off to Vegas at every opportunity...she deserves whatever punishment she is given." Another high-ranking school official, who chose to remain anonymous (shocking) explained, "We have all done our best to cover up for Emily, loaning her money without question, urging her to go to gambling anonymous meetings," the source commented, "but, we weren't doing her any favors...we all knew she had a problem."

Students, as well as staff, have also been distraught. "I can't believe Emily would just steal towels and samples from the hotel like that," one anonymous fourth year student exclaimed, "Illegal gambling and grand theft auto I can understand, but hotel towels and samples...I guess she shocked us all with how far she would go." The Orifice's own editor, Marla Ferguson, was hurt that Langdon "didn't feel close enough to me to even bother to bring me back a free sampler." One anonymous

ASB member was enthusiastic, "Fine with me if she wants to run around doing whatever, she is setting a great example considering the fact DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILY DAY is coming up! I hope she isn't fired before she has a chance to speak to the crowd."

It is difficult to say where Langdon's career is headed, but it is almost certain she will be doing "five to ten" in Las Vegas, where she will have time to plan out her options. It is also difficult to imagine how the Mount will recover. The sisters have offered to hold a prayer service for all the Mount commu-

the life of our current Student Activities Director driven to its lowest level, we now must live with the fear that the next Student Activities Director the school hires will have no sense of humor. Students, staff and faculty wait in the despair of mistrust, hoping someday an

answer can be found on what drove Langdon to the edge. Was it too many hours working diligently in front of her computer on her dissertation? Is it the fact that she is still unmarried? Her fear of children? Childhood trauma? I am

"Anyone can see she has a problem, running off to Vegas at every opportunity... she deserves whatever punishment she is given."

—Dr. Jane Lingua,
Vice President of
Student Affairs

sure as time goes on theories will arise, and some will be able to say, "I knew Dr. Emily Langdon when...(insert memory), before she became a crazed, feminist car thief."



Emily Langdon showed delinquent tendencies even in her childhood. Family members showed this telling photograph to Oracle staff of Langdon stealing another child's Halloween candy while he was distracted by the camera. Family members are ashamed but hope that showing this photo will bring her to terms with her serious problem. (Photo by Jennifer Langdon, sister to Emily)

Grant, O.J....these are all painful memories of the betrayal of American dreams and values. Now, betrayal has shown its ugly face here at the Mount. Dr. Emily Langdon, Director of Student Activities (and once loved advisor of *The Oracle* staff) was arrested on a recent trip to Las Vegas on three counts—illegal gambling, automobile grand theft and petty larceny.

automobile grand theft and later charged with petty larceny for stealing too many free samples and towels from the hotel.

When contacted for an interview, the *New York New York* hotel casino manager Bob Glutz, wanted to make it clear that he does not assume Langdon's conduct speaks badly of the Mount. "In fact," commented Glutz, "I was tempted to take Dr. Langdon up on her bribe, since I have



Emily Langdon caught in action! Exposing photo shows Langdon striking undercover police officer Joe Male. (photo by The Flash)

On March 13, Langdon and several friends were caught counting cards at the newly opened *New York New York* hotel and casino in Las Vegas. Unsuccessful in their attempt to convince the casino manager to accept a bribe—one year free tuition plus room and board at the Mount—Langdon and friends ran out of the casino, but could not remember where they had parked. Frantic, Langdon, who had previous experience with hot-wiring cars (a story for another issue), jumped into the

heard nothing but good things about the Mount's academics. However, I am a business man, and I had heard rumors that people in the Business Office were... well let's just say, disagreeable...I didn't want to take the risk."

Langdon's arresting officer did not share Glutz's sentiment. "She [Langdon] hit me!" Officer Joe Male exclaimed. "It wasn't just a slap either, she broke my nose wide open," complained Male. "What else should I expect from a faculty member at

The Orifice

the Mouthpiece of Mount St. Mary's College

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Marla Ferguson	Wonder Woman
Varsana Staszak	Super Girl
Moria Demby	The Flash
Tiffany Kunich	She-Ra

Staff Writers

Alessandra Brophy	Princess Leia
Summer Cervantez	Xena
Sonia J. Cortez	Bionic Woman
Eileen Herrmann	Smurfette
Yuki Ito	Pink Power Ranger
Aisling McGuckin	Cat Woman
Pamela Mustin	Bat Girl

Advisor

Emily Langdon Miss Piggy

Editor's Plan

The editor of this newspaper was under the false impression that the staff members were super heroes. Her plan to make us spit out two issues a month has been successful thus far, although quite tedious! That means that there must be some sort of super hero in each member. No ordinary person (like you) could pull this off. It is through the power and force (mostly force), of our editor, Wonder Woman, that this edition was made possible. We hope you have a **sense of humor** and enjoy yourself! Our Disclaimer: (Oh, this edition is ENTIRELY a joke and not meant to offend, so please do not send us any nasty unsigned letters, send us nasty signed ones so we can actually print them.)

The Oracle

of Mount St. Mary's College

May 2, 1997

Volume 2 Number 10

Women's Studies Program Faces Growing Pains

By Alessandra Brophy
Staff Writer

Most women's colleges boast having a Women's Studies program, but there are some students and faculty members who are concerned about the support of the Women's Studies program at the Mount.

Dr. Michele Dumont, a philosophy professor at the Mount and a member of the Women's Studies Advisory Committee, believes that some administrative officials have not been supportive of the Women's Studies program. The three most common and negative responses she hears regarding the establishment of the Mount's Women's Studies program are the following: The Mount is a women's college, so there is not a need for a Women's Studies program, Women's Studies is not academic enough, and Women's Studies promotes male bashing.

Rebbecah Pelle, a first year student and a Women's Studies minor does not share those sentiments. She says, "If the Mount advertises itself as a women's college, it should have the programs and faculties to back that up educationally and that includes having a Women's Studies Department." Pelle also said she was pleased with the

curriculum of the Women's Studies Program. Maria Mahecha, a fourth year Women's Studies minor says, "Some people have been resistant to the idea of a Women's Studies program, but there are more minors than I thought there would be. I am not worried about the program being too small." Dr. Anne Eggebroten, who is Chair of Women's Studies Department, mentioned that there are only eight students enrolled for WST 100, the core course for Women's Studies, next fall. Eggebroten is hopeful incoming freshmen will increase enrollment for the course, but Eggebroten would like to encourage current students to enroll also.

The Women's Studies program is currently overseen by the Curriculum Committee. The Curriculum Committee oversees three areas in particular: the General Education Requirements, the Multi-Cultural requirements, and the Women's Studies Department. The only member of the Curriculum Department who has experience in Women's Studies is Eggebroten; she is on the sub-committee. Eggebroten is currently the chair of the Women's Studies Department. Dumont, who also teaches Women's Studies courses, asked why members of the Curriculum Committee, most of whom have no experience in Women's Studies, be setting guidelines for the Women's Studies Department. Dumont says, "We don't need to be overseen by another committee. We can run on our own. They don't tell us what to teach in the Philosophy Department, so why should Women's Studies be an exception." Dumont believes that if the Curriculum Committee did not oversee the Women's Studies program it would have more status and it would show that the Women's Studies program officially has support from the administration.

Sr. Joseph Adele Edwards, the Chair of the Curriculum Committee says, "The Women's Studies Department has just as much independence as the English Department. If they wanted to add a course they would have to go the Academic Vice-President." Dumont noted that the Academic Vice-President approves money for courses, not the curriculum. She



On April 17, 1997 Kappa Delta Chi, African American Council of Women and Career Planning sponsored the Fashion Show. The Fashion Show was held to exhibit proper career attire, as well as some fun formal wear and casual attire. Monique Dacay is pictured here modeling an outfit provided by Robinson's May. (Photo by Moria Demby)

also stated that, with the exception of English courses that meet General Education requirements, the English Department does not have to report to the Curriculum Committee for curriculum approval. Edwards said the Curriculum Committee has approved almost every course that has been submitted by other departments for Women's Studies designation. When asked if the Women's Studies would continue to be overseen by Curriculum Committee in the future, Edwards was not sure. She says that the Curriculum Committee currently oversees

the Women's Studies Department because "It's a safeguard," due to the fact that the Women's Studies Department is fairly new.

The reason for safeguarding the Women's Studies program is still unclear, but Dumont summed up the issue by stating, "If the administration did not like us, they would go after us."

Currently, the Women's Studies program is in the process of choosing a new director. Candidates are interviewing, and the new director will be announced sometime after the end of the current semester.

New Deli, Meal Plans, and Meal Cards Proposed for Next Year

By Varsana Staszak
Assistant Editor

In the fall of 1997, Mount students will have two new meal plan options, a new deli on each campus and new ID card technology.

The cards will store students' information which can be accessed through a computer. The card will be digitized and will work like an ATM debit card with a magnetic strip. This card will serve as a meal card in which students will slide their card through a machine in the cafeteria and the cost of a meal will be subtracted. Students will also have the chance to use the card at the coffee cart and the delis, which are scheduled to open in August 1997.

Karin Middleton, Director of Residence Life, believes that a future use of the ID card would be to, "replace the access keys in the residence halls." She added, "The card has many capabilities. We are willing to make an investment in a higher caliber

system, called CBOARD...This year we are headed for the 21st century." For safety, "If a card is lost, then it can be demagnetized through the computer and will be replaced with another card," Middleton stated.

Everyone will be able to have cards. This way, "people won't have to carry cash [on campus]," Middleton said. Middleton looked to the future when the card could possibly be used at local restaurants and businesses.

Mary Grogan, Director of Food Services, wanted to give resident students a choice by providing two meal-plan options. Plan A is a variable 19-meal program which entitles students to any 19 meals per week and includes a \$25 Flex Fund per semester. Plan B is a variable 14-meal plan which entitles a student to any 14 meals per week and includes a \$75 Flex Fund per semester. The Flex Fund can be

used to purchase items at the coffee cart, the new delis, and additional meals in the cafeteria. Next year, there will be only two meals on Sundays and Saturdays. If a student uses up all of their Flex Fund before the end of the semester, they may purchase additional funds, called "Munch Money."

Grogan sees that there may be as many as four or five meal plan options in the future, but she cannot see there being the option of resident students not buying any meal plan. Grogan did note that the college is behind the times in terms of meal plans, but that these new options will bring revenue into the college and will allow commuter students to conveniently spend money on campus.

Grogan is meeting with such companies as Coca-Cola and Stouffer's to develop a partnership in which the companies would give the college money in

exchange for advertising. This exchange is known as a branding concept. The money would assist the college in building the new delis.

On the Chalon campus, the deli will be located in the Campus Center and will be open Monday through Friday, 11:30 a.m.- 7:30 p.m. Weekend hours will be determined by the amount of business. On the Doheny campus, the deli will be located in the Wigwam and will be open Monday through Friday, from 11:30 a.m.- 8:00 p.m. The delis will provide "Subway-type" sandwiches, soups in the winter, chips and snacks. At Doheny, the deli will emphasize pre-packaged salads and sandwiches, microwave dinners like Stouffer's and Healthy Choice, and flavored coffee. In the future, Grogan hopes to see pizza added to the deli menu.

The cost of room and board has still not been separated from

the cost of meals. Grogan stated, "We are working towards breaking out the costs, but I am not privy to budget decisions." She also emphasized the fact that the meal plans will allow for tracking of the costs. Since Grogan arrived at the Mount in July 1996, Food Services has been tracking costs.

William Everhart, Vice President of Business and Finance, agrees that the meal plans are the first step in the right direction in tracking costs. He said, "The budget is based on past years." Everhart explained that room and board covers the expense of operating the dorms — providing gas, electricity, water, and maintaining the inside and outside of the buildings, and housekeeping. Residence Life is also supported by this budget. He added, "Old buildings cost more to maintain." He added that he is looking for ways to improve room and board.

WIN Spring Break Program

By Patricia Ibanez
Contributing Writer

After six years in operation, the Women's Internship Network program continues to be a success at the Mount. The Women's Leadership Program of Mount St. Mary's College, in conjunction with the Junior League of Los Angeles, Inc., established this mentoring program in order to give college students the opportunity to work with professional women in public policy.

Every year during spring break the selected students are assigned mentors and get the chance to apply their education in a professional environment. The WIN program enhances college women's awareness of public policy and its many forms in the workplace. The mentors of this year's seventeen participants included Mayor Riordan's Office-City Hall, Los Angeles Community College District, Hall of Records, Times Mirror Corporation, Planned Parenthood, and many others.

Fourth year Gerontology student Rochelle LeBlanc, who was placed at Community and Senior Services of Los Angeles, said: "My experience during WIN week has deeply influenced my ideas relating to my career choice."

The most exciting experience of the internship was the opportunity to attend a meeting of the Commissioners on Aging. This put into perspective exactly what the county of Los Angeles' commissioners are required to do. It also helped put a face behind the names. Each of these people desires to give back to their community through the time they volunteer for this commission."

Working at the UCLA Medical Center, third year student Ruth Shaer also affirmed that her WIN internship was very beneficial in giving her new perspectives of her career: "I have known that I have wanted to be a doctor for some time now. My top three choices within the realm of medicine were Psychiatry, Pediatrics, and Emergency Medicine. While interning in the emergency room during WIN week, I came across cases which fell into each of these categories. In the ER, however, an eleven hour day went by in seconds. Every moment was full of activity. I liked the fact that I had the opportunity to deal with a great variety of problems, so that I was always interested and learning. While I did not enjoy seeing people in pain, I loved the feeling of being able to

help them and having them leave with a smile on their face."

As a participant of this program, I can reiterate that the WIN program was indeed an invaluable experience. I could not have had a better mentor than Lisa Cleri Reale, the Director of Public Affairs at the Times Mirror Corporation. She did everything within her power to make sure I had a meaningful experience.

She arranged appointments for me to meet with various editors and reporters from the Los Angeles Times. I had the opportunity to see how a major newspaper such as the L.A. Times really works, and I also learned what is expected from a reporter. Furthermore, I had the opportunity to attend different meetings regarding the status of minority journalists in the future.

I was fascinated by all the information I was absorbing and could not believe I was actually walking through the different sections of the L.A. Times. Everyone in the newspaper knew my mentor and was more than willing to help me get the most out of this experience. Students have greatly profited from WIN.

College Urban Fellows

By Jean Day
Contributing Writer

The College Urban Fellows, a service learning organization, has for some time advocated self-reflection in combination with performing service.

Under the guidance of Dr. Cheryl Mabey and Nerina Tribble of the Leadership Office, approximately 20-30 students are selected to work at various schools or agency sites. They are given no set guidelines or job descriptions due to the variation of the needs of the sites. Throughout the year, the Fellows are asked to submit reflective, in-depth journals. The purpose is to help the student learn how to critique and develop problem solving skills. Along with this, the students' strengths and weaknesses are evaluated during group meetings.

In the beginning of the term, students are asked to evaluate their skills such as conflict resolution, grant writing, and problem solving. They also discuss what personal goals they hope to achieve through their work as a College Urban Fellow. At the end of the term, the Fellows are asked again to make an assessment of these skills. What the students seem to be drawing from their experiences as a Fellow extends beyond an increase in skills to a remarkable enhancement on a more personal level.

The journals and other written evaluations emphasize the increase in self-image, tolerance, empathy, and the importance of reaching out to those in need. Some of the projects that the

Fellows have participated in have included training seventh and eighth graders to tutor first and second graders, creating a peer mediation program and an after school basketball program. The Fellows must start from the ground up and assess the needs of their particular site and develop programs and resources accordingly. The task is not easy, because many times the Fellows are not given support by their site's administrators. The Fellows must use their strengths to the utmost advantage and also evaluate their weaknesses that may be hindering progress. Olivia Ortiz, a Fellow for two years, says, "Being a member of the College Urban Fellows has most definitely added to my personal and professional growth. I'll be the first to admit that before I joined the group, I wasn't aware of my community's problems."

The Fellows hold monthly meetings that serve as an open forum for discussing barriers they are facing both personally and professionally. Mabey and Tribble also set up individual meetings in order to give the students an opportunity to discuss those barriers in a more private setting. This concept has enhanced the overall experience of the Fellows by giving them time to reflect on their accomplishments and future goals during their term. One of the other recognizable features is the leadership style behind the service. Olivia Rojo, another Fellow, says, "The meetings with our

whole group and with Dr. Mabey and Nerina are not meant for them to criticize us but to point out our accomplishments that we may be unable to recognize through the work. Performing the service and making time for reflection has been useful in so many other aspects of my life. I'm much more confident in assessing myself and making needed changes in my work." Ortiz also excitedly adds, "Being a Fellow has greatly enhanced my college experience by helping me realize that I am a woman capable of success!"

Gift Ideas for Moms and Grads

By Aisling McGuckin
Staff Writer

Mother's Day and Graduation occur at the same time of year, but many don't think about buying gifts for mothers when buying graduation gifts. Since Mother's Day is a celebration of women, the gift you buy for your mother can also easily be bought for your graduate.

Many people profess to love gifts that come from the heart, but in reality, if your mother knitted a pair of mittens for you as a graduation present, would you be ecstatic? Probably not, unless you summer in Alaska. Therefore, when looking for gift ideas, keep in mind that you should look for things which you too would enjoy receiving, and which would actually come in handy.

For example, I received a nail care kit from my mom when I

graduated from high school: a pair of tweezers, a file, and some nail clippers. Another practical gift is a daily planner, so that when mom gets harried you can schedule her in for a quick pep talk or a back rub. This gift also works well for graduates because as we know, not all those grads know exactly where they are going or when they will get there! A diary is another lovely gift, especially if given with a special message written on the inside.

However, not everyone appreciates the practical gift. Most people think of flowers when considering a gift for Mother's Day or Graduation, since they can be immediately proffered at the end of the ceremony yet don't clutter up the house for long. To liven up the old tradi-

tion of giving flowers, instead plant a garden for your loved one, or give her a basketful of seeds. This is a way to ensure that the person won't soon forget your gift and also may start a hobby which could last a lifetime.

Another sentimental gift is to fill a picture album with photos and provide humorous quips to accompany the pictures. If you are less intimate with your mother or friend, perhaps a good book for summer reading would be a more suitable choice. This is especially appreciated by students after a long year of reading school books or a mom who just wants to put her feet up. The more you account for the tastes of an individual, the more likely they will appreciate your gift. Be practical and creative!

National Model U.N.

By Patricia Ibanez
Contributing Writer

Over 2,000 students from 33 states and 14 countries on four continents convened in New York City last month in the five-day long Model United Nations. The majority of the simulation (which ran from March 25-29) was held at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Midtown Manhattan; however, the opening ceremonies and final day of debate were held inside UN chambers. "The National Model United Nations is an excellent opportunity for college students to come together and discuss important issues facing the international community," said Michael Eaton, Secretary-General of the 1997 NMUN. "As the most accurate simulation of the United Nations, the NMUN also gives students a sense of the obstacles that diplomats face when addressing international crises."

This year's Mount St. Mary's delegation was composed of eight students, who represented the nation of Sri Lanka on a variety of international, political, economic, social and legal issues. We debated in UN chambers and heard from such speakers as Bill Richardson, US Ambassador to the UN, and UN Assistant Secretary-General, Gillian Martin Sorensen.

As a delegate to the legal committee, I enjoyed most the passing of the resolutions Sri Lanka was in favor of. It gave me a real sense of power and satisfaction to know that all the hard work my committee had undertaken was actually going to be taken into consideration by the real United Nations. It was amazing to see how serious all these students were in regard to their countries' concerns, and how

equipped they were to defend their causes. I was also amazed at how well prepared our own delegation from Mount St. Mary's College was.

As a third year student majoring in International Business and Political Science, Dianne Stewart explained how advantageous this experience was to her career: "I believe that the experience of MUN is the practice to the theory that you learn in Political Science and International Business classes. It gives students a chance to use their knowledge and learn from their peers." First year student, Nury Yoo commented: "It was incredible just to be there at the U.N headquarters and to sit in the ambassador's chair and vote on real issues that the U.N. is faced with. But more importantly, I really felt that I was challenged. Being able to meet those challenges through debating and cooperatively working with other schools raised my level of self-confidence."

Although the NMUN experience was educationally intense, it was also definitely fun. After the daily routine conference, we had a reception where we had the chance to dance and relax, and of course to caucus like real politicians! Amazingly enough, students were prepared to casually persuade you to support their resolutions after conference hours, even in the elevators. It was fun having to be always on guard and to make the right decisions for the welfare of our country, even if as vulnerable individuals we fell in love with our country's enemy.

Applauding the Courage to Share Unexpected Views

By Sonia J. Cortez
Staff Writer

Many Voices, a newsletter published by the Multicultural Advisory Council, was found to be offensive and not representa-



tive of all cultures. As I read through the newsletter, I was surprised to have come across the word "Chicano." This caught my eye and sparked my interest so I decided to read on. To my surprise, Ozaeta's essay was beyond anything I had ever expected to read in anything printed at the Mount. I applaud Ozaeta's courage to share her beliefs and her rejection of the common hyphenated American that many find necessary to categorize themselves. I found it interesting that the magazine did indeed focus on the Chicana/o-Latina/o perspective a lot more

than the Mount usually does.

I have heard comments that people have become offended by the fact that Ozaeta expresses her beliefs on not having the need to have a dash placed after her own culture to try and fit into the American society. This should not be something threatening to those who are proud of their hyphenated or non-hyphenated American culture. This is just one person's perspective, so why are we being so defensive? Some of us are not proud to be American because it is not something our families chose or we chose. The common response to that is, "Well, if you are not proud to be an American then why don't you go back to Mexico or wherever you came from for that matter?" Well, the reality is that some of us have been on this land and have worked on this land since before it became what is now called America. This is our home, and it has been for many years, so some of us do not find it necessary to hyphenate our culture with another culture because we did not particularly choose it.

I do recognize that this could be disturbing to some, and perhaps even offensive, because

you may feel you are not being properly represented as a member of a certain community. As for myself, the fact that something is titled "multicultural" does not necessarily mean that piece of literature will teach me about each and every culture that exists in the world. To me, the word multicultural means that I will learn one thing, one perspective, one idea that I did not possess before. This includes a new idea that can even be about people of my own culture.

The prefix "multi" could not stand alone without its base word "culture." Therefore, I believe it is important that each culture should be identified individually through its various experiences, such as were presented in *Many Voices*. If this magazine continues to focus on the Chicana/o-Latina/o in every upcoming issue, then I too will share the sentiment that it is not providing an appropriate spectrum of what multiculturalism really is. But the reality is that this has not yet occurred and accusing the ONE magazine that has come out of not doing a good enough job seems, to me, a bit outrageous.

I will agree that there were only a few cultures represented

in this one issue, but I do not believe it was intentionally done to leave out certain cultures or perspectives. I have much confidence that the Mount and the creators of *Many Voices* will print as many different perspectives as possible. Do we really think it is possible or fair to throw all cultures and experiences in one issue? I believe that if it is done it will be counter-productive. If some of us really disagree with what was printed whether it was the Filipina experience, the Latina-Chicana/o experience, or the feminist experience, or if you do not have the confidence that I have in the Mount staff, then I challenge you to submit your personal experience to the magazine. Everyone's experience is necessary, whether we agree with it or not, to understand what multiculturalism really is, but it needs to be done one step at a time and one perspective at a time.

There have been many times I have disagreed with the Mount's perspective on multicul-

turalism, but I feel that it is my responsibility to acknowledge that at least something is being done, and if I want things to change then I must also do my part. My part is to not be defensive or become offended when someone shares their experience that I may not agree with or understand. My part is also to be patient for the concept of multiculturalism is fairly new, and I know that not everything will represent who I am or what I believe but that every perspec-

Point and Counterpoint

Sonia Cortez
and
Summer Cervantez
present their
opposing views
on the
multicultural
aspects of the
Mount's
Many Voices
newsletter.

Failing to Address the "Whole Face" of America

By Summer Cervantez
Staff Writer

Recently I read the newsletter *Many Voices*, which is edited by the Mount's Multicultural



Advisory Council. The council was established in 1989 to promote "multicultural efforts, awareness and sensitivity." The goal of the newsletter is to promote "cross-cultural dialogue." However, after reading the newsletter I was extremely disappointed. I feel the newsletter fell short exactly where most multicultural literature, efforts and classes do. They fail to emphasize an aspect of unity, and instead they actually manage to promote what multiculturalism should teach against—more division on the basis of misdirected pluralism and frustration.

The newsletter's theme was "The Immigrant Experience," which appeared in itself to be interesting and informative. However, only one article presented a somewhat general overview of the whole immigration experience. The rest of the newsletter's articles presented poems and essays—all by Latin American students—focusing on the difficulty of being a part of,

or coming to, American society. The other article was a feminist point of view, suggesting we "individualistic" Americans should learn more about family values by studying the values of our immigrant groups.

Before I go further, let me make it clear that I am not against multiculturalism or the feminist movement. What pains me is that none of these articles dealt with students from other backgrounds—Asian, Caucasian, African-American, Native American, etc.—and none of the articles discussed anything intrinsically good about "being American." That the newsletter failed to bring in any other cultures or even an opposing point of view, does not promote multiculturalism. I certainly understood when I was reading the articles that they were opinions. However, I also understand the power and importance of the written word, and how once you put something out in the open for everyone to see it can influence people, therefore it is important that what is presented is somehow balanced.

I found myself particularly distracted by Maria Ozaeta's essay, *Latin American?* While I can sympathize with Ozaeta's feelings about being treated differently just because of her physical appearance, some of what she wrote treads on dangerous waters. When Ozaeta spoke about her unpleasant experience at a local Brentwood grocery store, she referred to those who gave her a look of indifference as "them," or "those people," or as

"True-Americans." The question I asked is how do we define "these people" then? Were they all Caucasians? Rich upper-class citizens? Or just people who consider themselves to be "True-Americans?" In any case, failing to be specific and the tendency to overgeneralize is exactly what white-supremacist or hate groups do. How do you think the Nazi's refer to Latinos, Catholics and Jewish people? They refer to them as "those people" (i.e. not like "us") I would hope that this one experience with a few ignorant people was not the "deciding factor" that encouraged Ozaeta to abandon her American heritage. A heritage that we all must acknowledge as citizens—good or bad, right or wrong—regardless of where we are from. By acknowledging our heritage, we acknowledge what we can change.

So many people view culture as a static, set in stone, indivisible part of our identity. The truth is culture is a fluid experience—it is always changing and always adapting. I, for example, belong to many cultures—Mexican, German, Spanish and African. But how do I define myself? I proudly define myself as an American because *this* is the country I live in and *this* country I can impact. American attitudes and ideals are the ones that I can choose to accept or to choose to try and change. If you do not consider yourself an American, then how do you expect to have a voice? To say you are an American does not mean you are a capitalist

Republican who believes in segregation. Saying you are an American means you are willing to accept the challenges of living in a diverse society, and that you are willing to work towards a country that is worth keeping.

I realize that many people lived on this land long before "America" was established, however, time goes on and with time comes change.

While sometimes multiculturalism can create unity, often it has a predisposition to present ideas based solely on what people want to hear or want to accept. People do not want to see "different" shades of themselves. Who wants to accept fundamentalists and dissenters as part of "us" or our "identity." People want to read or learn about other people who share their same opinions and desires. Most of us probably choose our friends according to this criterion. But, when multiculturalism goes into the classroom or educational environment, it should go well beyond like examining like. Sure I can learn about your customs, your food, your music, your dances and your religion, and you in turn can learn about your history and ancestors, but how do these things teach us to live together? Information is only a *pretense* to diversity and true multiculturalism, and the proof of that was bound tightly in the *Many Voices* newsletter. The newsletter provided a lot of information about the Latin

American culture, but no solutions and no other voice to contrast what was being said.

Multicultural education, especially in America, should be about teaching students that you are tied not only to your own culture, but that by being in America, you are tied to everyone else's also. Richard Rodriguez said, "We are all related to some continuous flow of ideas, some linkage, of which you are the beneficiary, the most recent link." If we choose as Americans, to choose as Ozaeta did, then we break that link and we destroy the chance of being able to make a lasting impact on American society.

Granted, creating change is never easy. But, the result of throwing up your hands and saying "I quit! I can't make a difference!" does not offer the best solution either. What threatens all people who live in this nation is cultural division. If we do fail to create or adapt an "American identity," that incorporates all our cultures and extremes...then eventually there will fail to be any America left at all. All that will be left of the United States is a nation torn apart by indifference.

Sr. Karen Kennelly Reflects on the Past, Present, and Future

By Sister Karen Kennelly
President of the Mount

Looking back over the year fills me with excitement and pride. What a year it has been! From Horizon's Day in September through all the presentations for commencement which we are involved now in April, it seems every month has its highlights.

Proposition 209 and our voter registration competition with Scripps and Mills colleges (we won!) got many of us more involved in the political process than we had ever been before.

Attention was focused on why we need affirmative action to promote the goals of our college and of our country—respect for each person, helping each one to realize her or his potential, educating ourselves to live and learn to love and serve one another in a multicultural world.

Another big highlight for the College came in September when we broke ground for the Sister Magdalen Coughlin Learning Center at Doheny. The groundbreaking celebration, October 3, was a great example

of how the entire college community works together to make the best possible education possible for students. City officials, donors whose gifts of money and moral support are helping us build a new library, learning resource center, and academic building, faculty, staff, and students all gathering to celebrate. Now the steel girders are up, and dedication ceremonies will become one of next year's highlights thanks to everyone's hard work.



Sr. Karen Kennelly, President of the Mount. (Photo by Moria Demby)

Another fall semester highlight was adopting a new five-year plan for the College, and celebrating the Christmas season with a glorious concert by the college choral groups and the Mansion Christmas Open House. Spring semester brought more peak experiences, especially Siena Day (will we ever forget the beautiful quilts, the reenactment of the Sisters of St. Joseph coming West, the remarkable women portrayed by the dancing D.O.C.S., and so much more!), the annual Spring Sing transformed into Multicultural Night,

and the visit of the world-renowned lecturer, Dr. Monika Hellwig, to the college.

Dr. Hellwig helped us reflect on the ways Mount St. Mary's brings its Catholic traditions into the curricular and extra-curricular life of the College. One thought I brought away from her talks that I want to think more about is that our current focus on technology or "how" to do things easily distracts us from the deeper question of "why" we do things. A Catholic college should certainly have as its number one purpose to help students adopt the values that will give enduring meaning to their lives. A professional life of service must be built on a foundation of deeply held convictions about life's ultimate purpose and end.

Now I am looking forward to commencement as the culminating highlight of the academic year 1996-1997. Congratulations to those who are achieving the milestone of an associate, baccalaureate, or master's degree on May 10. Congratulations, also, to freshman, sophomores, and juniors who will one day graduate as the classes of '98, '99, and the big year 2000. I look forward to welcoming you back in the fall for the year that will see the completion of our new buildings at Doheny, and convocations built around the theme of "Leadership for the New Millennium."

Ask Athena: Feel like Transferring? Here are Some Options

By Athena

Goddess of War and Wisdom, and the Mount mascot

Q: I feel like I want to transfer. What should I do?

A: At one time or another, most college students have probably wanted to transfer. It's natural to want a change of setting and to experience something different. Maybe if you're feeling restless (like Odysseus), you could try taking summer school at a different college. There are also many work-and-study programs offered through other schools. These programs are related to quite a few areas of study, so you'll have a variety to choose from. Try applying to an internship in another city. You can even take a larger step forward and investigate study abroad options for your junior year. This would be an

experience of a life time.

If you're feeling you want to transfer because the Mount doesn't offer any academic and/or extracurricular programs you're interested in, then examine a college guide book like Peterson's. Look for the majors, activities, and geographic settings you like. Call the colleges and ask for a catalog and information pertaining to your interests. You can go ahead and apply if you like what you see. Remember—submitting an application doesn't bind you into anything. You can stay or leave as you choose.

Every college student has grievances about their college. Weigh the advantages and disadvantages, test your options, and the solution will present itself. Don't just complain and wonder—take action!



Noteworthy or Not Worthy?

Noteworthy

The newly elected ASB officers!

The Family Day Committee for all their efforts! Everyone who attended Family Day and everyone who participated in Multicultural Night...Good job to everyone!

The honors cords given out at Mary's Day for all graduates with a GPA of 3.5 or above.

Everyone who read the April Fool's issue of *The Oracle*...and laughed!

Everyone who participated in the Fitness Exhibition during Family Day... a well-planned and skillfully executed event! Especially Jeffrey, our Cafeteria Cashier, for having the talent and the guts to perform at the Fitness Exhibition!

Emily Langdon, for her good sense of humor and ability to laugh at herself (April Fool's)!

The cool decorations at the Time Warp Dance!

Dr. Eric Stemp, a well-deserved Faculty Member of the Year award!

Not Worthy

The poor turn out by faculty during Family Day!

Whoever is in charge of painting the Chapel...what color is it anyway...white, brown, or paint chip?... Commencement is coming.

Tuition increases!

Food Services...enough stir fry already!

The loss of Gary "Hello, my friend," the security guard. At least he will be missed by some. First, we complain that security is bad, and then we get one person who *did* his job fired because of our impatience.

The rampant apathy on this campus which makes it impossible to have a real ASB election, since there was really only one position up for election which required people to make a decision.

Professors who give cumulative exams!

The Dukes of Hazard Reunion...it was bad enough the first time around.

Letter to the Editor:

COSA (the Committee on Staff Affairs) and the ASB Service Co-Chairs would like to encourage the Mount St. Mary's College community to participate in L.A. Works Day on Saturday, May 17, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Over 4,500 volunteers will be constructing community gardens, painting murals, planting trees, bushes, and flowers, building health clinics, and cleaning up neighborhoods throughout Los Angeles. The deadline for pre-registration is Friday, May 9. For more information, please contact any of the following representatives: Susan Fread (954-4146), Theresa Davis (954-4095), Karen Moog (476-2864), or Sharain Khalil (472-4024). Thank you very much!

Sincerely, Karen Moog, ASB Service Co-Chair

The Oracle

of Mount St. Mary's College

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CONGRATULATIONS Sonia Cortez & Claudia Tenorio – You guys made it! We're so proud of you! All the years of sweat and toil are over, but never forget the good times and friends you've made. Always remember us: We're gonna miss you! Best wishes and good luck! – The Student Activities Office, Emily, Sheryl, Varsana, & Aimee Jade.

Oracle staffers – Thanks for helping me face my gambling problems by sharing them with the entire world!! It's been fun! –Emily

J e a n e t t e – Congratulations! Get that diploma and I'll see you in the hills of Chiapas! La lucha continua... Justino

Kim – Thanks for being a caring roommate and friend. I'll miss staying up late talking and laughing. Good Luck! –Nancy

Andrea Willer– Thanks for the diet cokes, dr. pepper's and dunktank duty; the jeep journey and lovely Larry. –Emily

Farewell beautiful Mount! Good luck to all the graduates, and good-bye to all the people who have made my stay here as memorable as it has been. Enjoy the summertime folks! –Aisling McGukin

Frances
veronicA
erinM
ciCi
yoLanda
ivY

To My Family – You five are the greatest! Some of the best memories of my life were experienced with you this year. I will love and cherish our friendship and memories always!! I will miss all of you over the summer.:(Thanks for everything!! WE ARE FAMILY! Love, CiCi :)

Hey Oracle staff! Thanks so much for your hard work this semester. We've accomplished a great deal this time around– it can only get better. Good luck to the graduate (hooray for Sonia!) and those leaving us. Those of you sticking around– have a great summer. –Marla

Katie – You made it! Congratulations! It was worth the stress – don't you think? Good luck with the future. Love, Marla

Kristien and Sara – You two make beautiful music together. Keep spreading harmony wherever you go. Congratulations and good luck! –Nancy

So Long, Farewell!!!

Congrats to all the graduates! Especially my wild but sweet roommates Ellen, Yesenia, & Laurentina. My newfound friends– Marita, Nury, Annie, Mishna, Marcia, Liz, Christina, Julie J, Susette, & others. Thanx 4 making my first year easier & unforgettable. GOD BLESS –Heidi B

Giovanna – You have been a great inspiration to me. Thanks for your friendship and love. You're a beautiful person. –Nancy

To the best student workers – Thanks for all your hard work this spring semester in the Student Activities Office –Emily

To: Two of my most dearest and best friends:
Nicole and Pam

Pam, you are the song playing softly in my heart.
You are my friend, and NOPE I'm not dreaming. Love Ya, Baby Girl!

Nicole, you are my inspiration, my muse, to continue on.
You are a PHENOMENAL WOMAN, like me! Love Ya, Aunti Nikki.

As we continue on our separate journeys through life let us not forget, but take with us our bonds of **sisterhood** (closer than blood). We share laughs, tears, thoughts, and opinions bringing us closer together.

We must keep weaving these threads that bind us together.
I cannot imagine my life without you, my **kindred spirits**.

I love you and you will always be etched in my heart.

With much love, Your sista,

Zemia Anne

Dr. Emily Langdon – Thank you very much for all you've done for me. Love Ya! –Sonia Cortez

Martha, Deana, Leslie – Thanks for being there! Good luck next year! Love You! –Jeanette Cortez

Sheryl Fayloga & Aimee Jade – I'll miss you! Thanks for all the good times in S.A.O.! –Sonia Cortez

CONGRATULATIONS!! Soror Ramona Wells Love, Soror "Gio" (Giovanna) of AKA Sigma Chapter

To the Oracle Staff – It's been a great semester! Thanks for all the laughs. Good luck to all! – Sonia Cortez

CONGRATULATIONS!! Nikki Davis and Patricia Ibbanez Love, "Gio"

BYE EVERYONE!
Wish I was going with you! God Bless! Love, Regina

Venus – You misguided woman! I am so disappointed that you selected the WRONG Southern Californian university for grad school. –Emily

S o n i a – Congratulations! I am so proud of you and I know you will be the best. Love You and wish you lots of luck. –Martha Alvarez

Important Graduation information:

Attire: Remember to bring cap, gown, hood, and tassel to both ceremonies. Bring also bobbie pins, etc. NO DECORATIONS may be worn with garb. (Also, it is a good idea to leave your purse with your family as they may not be secure in the class rooms.)

Diploma: Cases are empty at Commencement. A form was given out earlier from the Registrar about how you wish to receive your diploma. Please contact them if there is a problem or concern.

Photography: 1. Professional photographers will be taking pictures of you at the ceremony and then will send the proof to you. You have already filled out a card for this purpose. 2. Family and friends have assigned areas for picture taking at the ceremonies. We ask that you to ask them to cooperate so that all can get the pictures they wish of their "special" someone. (Uncooperative persons will be removed from the area.)

Line-Ups: Baccalaureate graduates will be seated by degree (BA, BM, BS) with majors (Bio., etc.) in alphabetical order by name. This will help keep order and will also help your families find you when everyone looks alike in cap and gown. We ask that you be on time - or as close to it as you can - for the line ups for both ceremonies. We want to begin on time and it does not help when some of the graduates stay around outside to visit rather than being with the group.

Parking: As you are all well aware, parking at the Chalon campus is a real problem on a regular day - so this will be a real challenge with the number of graduates. Some people get carried away with their invitations and so this increases the crowd. PLEASE abide by the rules and follow the instructions to help us on that day.

Concerns: Graduation is a very important day for each graduate and for the college as a whole. We take great pride in each of our graduates and also in the dignity of the ceremony where we celebrate the accomplishments of each. This year is a great year for the Mount with a potential group of 600 graduates! While not all will attend, we must be ready for this size group and therefore ask the help of each person.

1. Maintain the dignity of the ceremonies by thinking of others, especially your fellow classmates.
2. Follow the parking instructions TO THE LETTER. Our neighbors do not understand what this day means so do not tempt their anger by mis-parking.

(For any further questions, please contact Sr. James at Doheny (ext.2573))

Graduation Calendar For Baccalaureate Grads:

Friday, May 9	9:00am	SHARP! Practice for Hooding in Chapel at Carondolet Center
	10:15am	Practice for Commencement in Circle at Chalon Campus
	11:00am	Alumnae Assoc. luncheon for all Graduates
	6:15pm	Line-ups for Hooding - report to Carondolet Center class rooms
Saturday, May 10	7:00pm	Ceremony followed reception
	9:15am	Line-ups for Commencement in designated classrooms in Humanities Bldg.
	10:00am	SHARP! Commencement Ceremony

POLL: What do you want changed at the Mount?

"There should be more interaction with the Brentwood neighbors - going to the town meetings and building better communications."



Sharain Khahil, 1st year
(photo by Moira Demby)

"Move the security shack behind Rossiter so it is in view of Brady Hall's back door. Have key cards instead of alarms on each door and all exits televised."

Sara Newman, 3rd year

"The cafeteria hours should be longer. When I [and others] get back from clinicals the cafeteria is always closed, and I leave before I can make a sack lunch in the morning. They should at least have bread and peanut butter available all day."

Yvette San Juan, 2nd year

"More sports- sport teams- and more dances spread out."

Erin Matsunaga, 1st year

"Make the door in the back of Brady Hall into another access door. Improve the lighting in the back parking lots. I don't feel comfortable because it's so dark walking from the parking lot to the dorms."

Tamara Purchase, 3rd year

"The residents should not be billed during the short breaks for staying in the dorm. The cafeteria should stay open during the day. The school needs an ATM on campus."

Jill Niebuhr, 1st year

"I want the school to modernize the computers, get better books in the library and a different meal plan for the people who want to eat six (6) meals a week."

Dawn Parker, 2nd year



Heidi D. Baldonado with
roommate Ellen De Leon
(photo by Moira Demby)

"Extending the library and computer lab hours will enable students to study more and to write more beautifully written papers at late hours."

"The school needs more bathrooms for the guests. I work at the Residence Desk and when there is a special event there is a long line for the one bathroom. Also I want sport teams."

Laura Schmierer, 1st year

"The school needs to advertise better. It's either not enough or not effective."

Irene Benavidez, 1st year

"More financial aid, payroll to go up, people in the business office to be nicer when asking them financial questions."

Sylvia Vallejo, 1st year

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 1997

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Chalon Student News

FROM THE PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Dr. Peter Orli, Director of the Hilton-Perkins National Program, Nicole Galvan and Jennifer Allande, will be attending The 1997 National Conference on Deafblindness from June 6-10 in Washington D.C. Faculty of the visual impairment courses nominated Ms. Galvan and Ms. Allande as students most likely to excel in this field. Please join the Psychology Department in congratulating the students and also join us in sending off all attendee's with well wishes.

If you are considering becoming a counselor or therapist, check out the MSMC graduate program in counseling psychology.

-We have evening classes, and now weekend classes for your convenience.

-You can be placed in some of the most sought after internships in town. Our program is well respected in the community, affording you the opportunity to work in some of the best agencies.

-During the last state licensing written exam, 100% of the MSMC students passed.

No wonder we have shown a 19% increase in enrollment over the last few years, while other local schools have reported a decrease. If you are interested in enrolling, contact Dr. Peter Orli, (213) 477-2654.

FITNESS EDUCATION NEW CLASS

Step Aerobics MW 5-6pm. Catherine Caster is the instructor. SIGN UP NOW WITH THE REGISTRAR.

PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION

18th Annual Spring Photography Exhibition will feature works by students, faculty, and alumni. April 28th-May 16th. Opening Reception is on Saturday, April 26th from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. This show will be located in both the Arts & Photography Galleries. Gallery Hours: Monday-Thursday 10am-7pm, Friday 10am-2pm, and Saturday 11pm-2pm. Santa Monica Community College District, 1900 Pico Boulevard, Santa Monica, CA, 90405. Call (310) 452-9289 for more information.

WANT A SUMMER JOB?

Then apply for a job on campus. If you are interested, pick up an application from the envelope on the door near the student placement job board or in H320 starting Tuesday, April 22. Complete applications and turn them in to H320. Then come back to H320 the last week of school (May 5-9) for job referrals. You may start working the first week of summer.

A REMINDER FROM STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES

May 8th will be the last day until the start of Fall semester that students can schedule appointments at the Student Health center for physicals or to be seen for an illness/injury by a physician or Nurse Practitioner. The Health Center will be open throughout the summer so you may continue to ask question and make appointments with the nurse for immunizations, PPD's and screenings. Call (213) 954-4110. Remember if you are enrolled in Mount St. Mary's Health Insurance Plan, your coverage continues throughout the summer. You do not need to obtain a referral when the college is not in regular session. Submit a claim form along with your bill for reimbursement to AG Administrators. You can call them with questions and to request additional forms at (800) 634-8628.

WE NEED YOU!

The Chalon campus is starting a pre-orientation program for entering freshman this summer. We need volunteers to serve as pre-orientation counselors and to spend an afternoon with new students. If you would like to volunteer or want more information please by H203 or H207.

YEARBOOK SPACE STILL AVAILABLE!!!!

Last chance to buy space in the Yearbook. Don't miss this opportunity to dedicate a page to your favorite club, organization, fellow students, faculty, or staff. The deadline to purchase space in the 1996-1997 yearbook is May 2, 1997. Stop by the Student Affairs, H200, for more information or contact Monica Lord, Yearbook Advisor at (310) 954-4136.

NEED A QUIET PLACE TO STAY ON-CAMPUS DURING FINALS WEEK?

The Casa has been reserved for Adult Learner Commuter Students from May 2-7. Space (7 beds) is available on a first come, first serve basis. Cost is \$16.00 per night (must be paid in advance). Sign-up in person is required to reserve a room. Space is as follows: 1 Single (1 bed) room w/bath. 2 single(1 bed in each) rooms w/shared bath. 2 double (2 beds in each) rooms 2/shared bath. Sign-up in the Learning Center H207. Monday-Friday, 8:00a.m.-6:00p.m. For more information contact: Monica Lord, Career Planning (310) 954-4136 or Lisa Nightingale, Learning Assistance (310) 954-4143.

COMMENCEMENT DATES FOR 1997

May 3 - Senior Liturgy, 6:00 p.m., Mary Chapel

May 8 - Laurel Day awards ceremony for associate program students, 5:00 p.m., Doheny. Graduate Hooding, 8:00 p.m., Doheny.

May 9 - Baccalaureate Hooding, 7:00 p.m., Chalon, followed by reception.

May 10 - Commencement, 10:00 a.m., Chalon.

1997-1998 SCHOLAR MENTOR CLUB OFFICERS!!!

President-Julie Jackson

Vice President-Lilly Legra

Secretary-Vicky Yamamoto

Treasurer-Mariya Favelyukis

Historian-Suzie Ward

Officer of Public Relations-Annie Lin

Doheny Happenings

FROM THE ADVISEMENT CENTER

Planning to go to summer school? Before Registering:

Please meet with your advisor about the classes you want to take. If you have any questions, please feel free to go the the Advisement Center for assistance. FINALS WEEK Finals begin Monday, May 5. Pick up a finals' schedule at the Registrar's Office. Start getting prepared for these tests now.

AA DEGREE/ALUMNI MERCHANDISE

If you're receiving an AA degree, you will be an alumni of the college. If you would like to see and/or purchase some of the merchandise from the alumni office, please see Sr. Carol in the Learning Center who is coordinating this for the Alumni office.

Associated Student Body 1997-1998

Executive Board

Alice Patricio	President
Donalyn Lorenzo	Vice President, Chair of Senate
Pamela Monzon	Vice President, Chair of SAC
Michele Nguyen	Chair of Finance
Anna Intharathut	Chair of Interclub Council

Senate

Lilly Legra	Senior Senator
Cristina Solis	Senior Senator
Monique Heredia	Junior Senator
Alison Seid	Junior Senator
Mary Jacquelyn	Sophomore Senator

Student Activities Council

Daisy Ann Mah	Athenians Against Apathy
Laura Batres	Cultural Celebrations
Charlotte Ruiz	Dance
Kristina Nowitzki	Films
Elena Miranda	Mount Events
Sharain Khalil	Service

Club Awards

The Athenas

Diligent Doers	Developing Our Careers in Science
Most Creative Publicity	Residence Hall Association - Car Wash
Most Collaborative Event	Amnesty International - FGM Speaker
Most Original Program	The Oracle - The Orifice
Best Retention of Members	Pi Theta Mu
Best Rookie Year	Pangkat Pilipino
Phantom Clubs	AAF, SIFE, Le Club Francais, Math Council

ASB Awards

Special Program Awards

Zemia Atkins: Multicultural Night
Michelle Nguyen and Julie Ahn: Gay Awareness programming

ASB Commitment Awards

SAC	Jane Huseby
	Michelle Nguyen
	Aimee Jade Sison
Senate	Donalyn Lorenzo
	Lilly Legra
	Tammy Palofax

Emerging Leader Awards

Class of 2000
Irene Benavidez
Summer Cervantez
Maripa Flores
Huong Ho
Erika Jones
Annie Lin
Selena McKay
Laura Schmierer
Susie Ward
Megan Weaver

Class of 1999

Jenny Hernandez
Anna Intharathut
Durgha Shanmugan